Illustrated Midland News.

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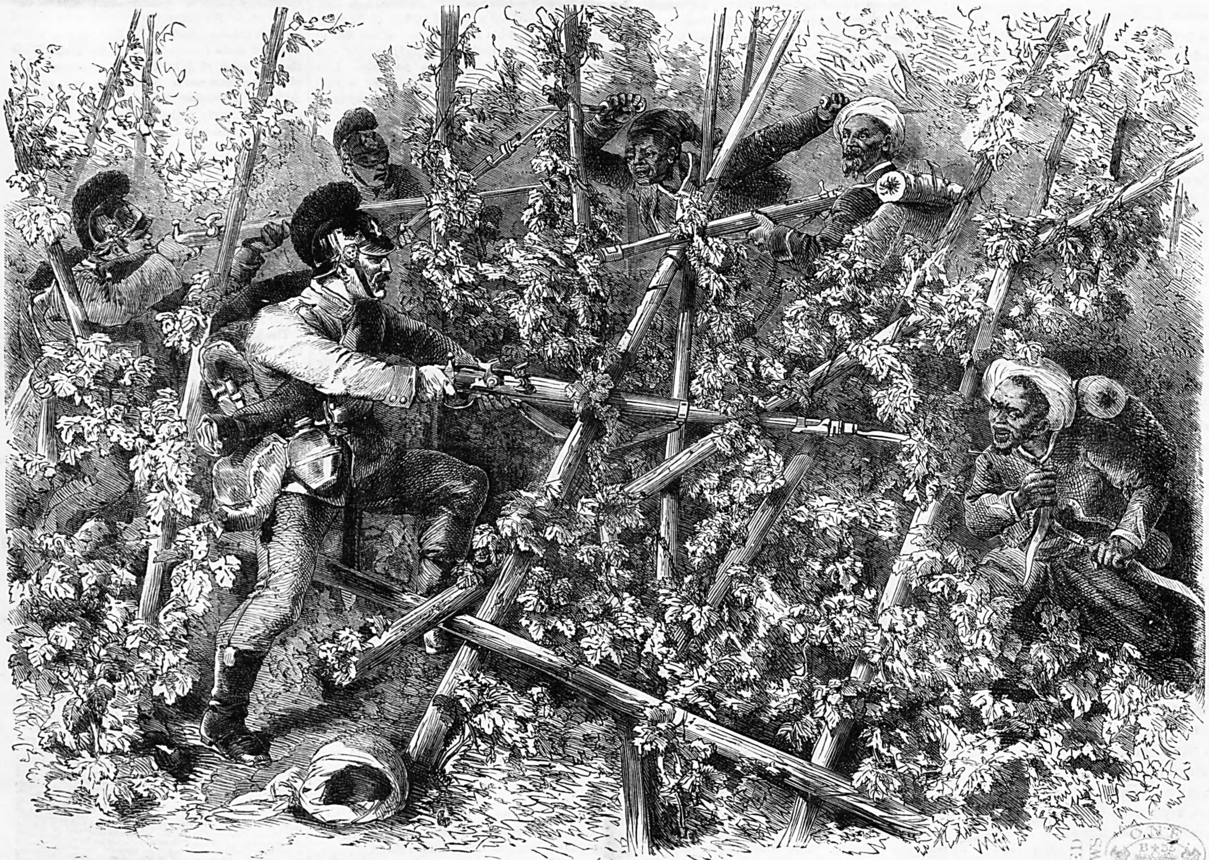
AMONG THE HOPS.

Hop-gatherers of Kent, of Sussex, of Worcester, of Hereford, labouring merrily among the sweet and pleasant hop-thickets of your native counties, with the sunlight coming down upon you deliciously filtered through the pale green leaves and interlacing tendrils of this swiftest growing of English plants in these beautiful days of autumn, give your attention for a moment to the picture of a hop-ground presented on this page of our journal. Does the scene resemble any that you have ever looked upon in the hop-gardens of old England? You have heard of Bavarian hops, as you have heard of Strasburg beer. Neither the crop nor the beverage is a produce to be despised. It is the custom of the peasants of the Rhine, as well on the French as on the Baden side of the beautiful river, to assemble in autumn, as our own peasantry assemble in the counties we have named, to gather the "hop grapes," and it is their custom, likewise, in exact correspondence with their fellow-labourers in this country, to drink refreshing ale, well flavoured with hops, the growth of their own soil. But a grim body of harvest-men came this year among the hop-gardens on the borders of the Rhine before the crops were ripe, and the clever German artist, Herr F. Kaiser, has favoured us with the adjoining sketch of the unwelcome interlopers at their work. Those are gigantic Bavarian infantry in the foreground, and the tools they work with are fixed bayonets. The figures knashing their teeth in the background, armed with daggers and rifles, are warriors of the French army from Africa. On the one side and the other they are picking off men instead of hop grapes, and in lieu of beer the only produce of the despoiling of the crops is blood. This spectacle was witnessed on the 4th of August in the neighbourhood of Wissenburg, and it is but the counterpart of many another scene, then and since, in the district of the Rhine Provinces. That is how the paternal Governments of two great nations watch over and protect the interests of their children and encourage them in their industry. A great many times since hops began to be grown by Bavarians and Belgians, and a great many times before the plant grew famous in the world, that territory has been invaded and overrun by French and German armies, the crops burnt to the ground, or trampled under the feet of men engaged in the work of wild beasts, and the inhabitants massacred or driven from their homes. It is almost marvellous that the people of that hapless battle-ground of rival and hostile races have not long since ceased to make it their abiding place, for the country has seen more bloodshed and more of the countless miseries and horrors of war than any other province in Europe since the Romans ceased to struggle with the Gauls and the Goths. There is something not wholly unfitting and inconsistent with the suggestions of time and place when savage tribes meet in self-sown forests, jungles, and prairies, like the untamed animals with whom they divide the inheritance, and cut and hew at each other for the possession of territory and for the protection of their villages from the ravages of their foes; but that picture of slaughter in a hop-garden, in the midst of crops produced with toil, expenditure, and science, is a monstrous anomaly, and so much



FIGHT OF BAVARIAN INFANTRY WITH TURCOS AND ZOUAVES IN THE HOP GROUNDS OF WISSENBURG.

ILLUSTRATED MIDLAND NEWS ONE PENNY NEWSPAPER

the more monstrous, in appearance, at least, if not in reality, by reason of the fact that half-tutored savages of an inferior and more ferocious race are introduced into the centre of civilized Europe to assist in the fighting. It has been the beneficent decree of Providence that, in the hundred and fifty years, during which the Rhine provinces have been devastated more times than it is easy to count, no such occurrence as that depicted in our engraving should take place in the hop-grounds of England, and there is therefore the greater reason why this country, saved from the awful demoralisation and suffering that belong to such scenes, should make itself the leader in the inculcation of a higher order of ideas and a nobler sense of international relations.

FIGURES IN RELIEF.

The figures in relief are those of the Count Von Bismarck and Napoleon III. In the field of war which is painted in the minds of all of us with more or less indistinctness these two characters stand forward gigantically, their faces full of expression, every feature sharp and clear, every turn of mental and physical peculiarity strongly marked. We do not lose sight of them. They are not *Dei ex machina* behind the scenes, but stand right in the glare of the footlights. The Emperor is gone to Wilhemshöe, but our eyes follow him there. He does not actually withdraw and give place to a successor. We know all about him and his schemes, his expectations, his disasters, the spirit in which he went about his work and the mood in which calamity found him. While he was at the Tuileries he had to some extent ceased to be an object of familiar interpretation. It was easier to mistrust than to believe in our notions of the man he was and the resources that were in him when he sat aloft within the folds of the purple. There is a certain fictitious greatness about monarchs in power which it is impossible not to be influenced by, and the genuine material of the man is in a manner hidden. But the campaign somehow took all the mystery out of Bonaparte from the first. His notions, his modes of setting to work, the incidents that marked his progress, the miscalculations, the mischances; his personal conduct at Metz, at Saarbrück, at Sedan; his demeanour seated on a stone in a village with the Minister of Prussia on the outskirts of the battlefield, and at the castle on the slopes with King William, seemed to join two parts of his history separated by a gulf. We appear to be made personally acquainted once again with the man of the insurrection of Strasburg, writing letters to his mother, the man of the fiasco of Boulogne, defending himself before his judges, the prisoner of Ham, writing letters to the newspapers and escaping from the fortress in the attire of a bricklayer with a plank on his shoulder. There is something the dramatist might envy in the natural touches by which this prominent character in the great drama of the day is revealed for the man that he is before the audience of the world. Neither the smoke, nor the roar of guns, nor the horrors of the fight, nor the immense political consequences prevent the eyes of the vast field of the world from being fixed on the Man of the Second of December, whose political career seems to have been closed with the tragedy of September the First, but whose rôle in the history of Europe is far from being finished. And then turn to King William's Minister. He stalks colossally among plans of war and battle fields, and is more conspicuously visible and less mysterious than any statesman concerned in the movement of great events whom we can call to mind. When, in the middle of July, it was the question of questions whether the quarrel of the two nations would be submitted to the wager of war, we heard of Count Bismarck's indignation at the attempt made to extort concessions from the King, and that indignation moved the patriotic fervour of Germany, and became, in some degree, the spirit of the great campaign in Northern France. Since then he has been ubiquitous in those blazing and smoking regions, looking on at battles from hill-tops, and chatting to everybody within earshot about the demands he shall make of his fallen enemy, the reasons which will guide him in deciding upon guarantees, and the method by which he intends to enforce them. While France is wondering what Prussia is going to do with respect to the siege of Paris, the Count Von Bismarck, exchanging compliments and cigars with an English newspaper correspondent, explains that he intends to place his troops round the French capital and to starve the inhabitants into submission instead of resorting to attack and bombardment. It is almost a matter of wonder that he did not come forward before the first rising of the curtain and speak a prologue. Beyond question he will recite the epilogue to the applauding pit at the close of the last scene, and we are not sure he will not take hands with Louis Napoleon, and lead him across the stage, when the time comes to acknowledge the favour and attention of those before whom the awful drama has been enacted.

MARIO'S LAST CONCERT TOUR.

A GOSSIP BY THE WAY.

With pleasant companions, fine weather, and short distances to travel, few undertakings can be more agreeable than a provincial concert tour. Its business, consisting of playing, singing, eating, drinking, packing, and unpacking is not very arduous, while with such business is inseparably combined the primitive pleasure of making money, when receipts are good. True, there is the reverse of the medal which, fortunately, in the present instance, has not yet been seen, or if seen has quickly been put out of sight. Concert tourists may, and indeed do, represent a nondescript class of travellers, if that be any disadvantage. As the station master at Carmarthen told our manager last week, we are neither theatricals, opera singers, nor equestrians, and cannot claim recognition as privileged individuals allowed to travel in first-class carriages at second class fares under any bye-law of the Railway Companies. The astute official was sorely puzzled to define our artistic status satisfactorily to himself and consistently with the instructions he had received respecting us from head-quarters. Nevertheless we form a party eagerly recognised by the public, and can therefore contentedly put up with our temporary exclusion from what is evidently the world of art from a railway point of view. By a graceful compliment to a constant contributor, our portraits appeared on the front page of the *Illustrated Midland News* a few weeks ago, so that the readers of these columns must be by this time familar with our physiognomies as represented by the veracious pencil of Mr. Potts.

They are also aware that we are six in number, and include in our limited company, formed altogether independently of the famous Act protecting innocent shareholders, some musical celebrities of universal reputation. Mario, Sivori, De Kontski, Mdlle. Liebhart, and Mdlle. Enriquez are, it must be conceded, very good representatives of the different branches of executive musical talent to which they respectively belong. We have been brought together from various parts of the world. Our tenor came from Paris a day before this his last tour commenced; our violinist arrived at the same time from Villers-sur-Mer; the rest of us assembled from divers parts of England. By this tardy gathering together, which was unavoidable, rehearsals were rendered impracticable, and our first performance in public suffered accordingly. Not so much so, however, as we did individually.

For the conductor of the Concert I can speak personally, and am very certain he never passed a more anxious time so far as music is concerned than on the occasion referred to. Moreover, Mario was nervous, and not in voice. Incredible as it may seem to be in the case of one so long accustomed to appear before the public, he trembled visibly when it was his turn to go upon the platform. This nervousness prevented his making use of those notes usually most completely at his command to the best advantage, and increased a hoarseness which always veils his voice after a long rest. Until Monday, the 5th inst., he had not sung since the last nights of the season at Covent Garden Theatre. The pianoforte, one of Kirkman's grands, was tuned to concert pitch, almost too sharp to accompany vocalists. In the duet, *Parigi o cara* with Mdlle. Liebhart, Mario had experienced the inconvenience of this extreme diapason, and as he was to sing *Spirito gentil*, whispered to me that he wished the song transposed half a note lower than the edition from which I had to play. The request was complied with as a matter of necessity, but at what sacrifice it is not for me to say. My recollection of the crucial test will always be associated with a sense of intense heat and a dimness of vision, very much increased by a refractory eye-glass which refused to stick in its proper place, or when they became so thick with mist as to be quite the reverse of useful. The performance, which, at any rate to one of those concerned in it, seemed interminable, came to an end at last, and Mario, with his usual kindness, expressed his satisfaction at the effort that had had been made to please him. I know not what effect the transposition had upon the audience, nor whether any cynical observer noticed certain struggles of the pianoforte. The experience then acquired will make me sympathise with all accompanists henceforth, especially if they happen to be placed in a similar position. In the midst of changing naturals into sharps, white notes into black, I could not help wondering whether any among the listeners, in a wicked frame of mind, would give a humorous account of the affair. Such a description would be amusing enough if mental agony can be made the subject of wit and laughter. Since our first Concert we have continued on our way most prosperously. Mario has regained his voice and, with it, confidence, to a certain extent, has returned to him, although he still, as ever, suffers from nervousness during the first part of a Concert. In all impassioned singers this characteristic is observable. No one evinced it more remarkably than did Giulia Grisi, who was seldom able to conquer the emotion caused by coming before an audience until she had, so to speak, lost her own identity and was inspired by the circumstances supposed to affect the character she represented. In a concert room Grisi was consequently rarely so effective as upon the stage, and the same may be said of Mario, although the delicious quality of his voice and marvellous expression compensate in a great measure for the absence of dramatic inspiration, and make every note he sings a delight to hear. Time has not impaired his vocal powers so much as it has rendered him more apprehensive of his resources failing, or in other words, increased his nervousness. When full of confidence he now declaims as finely as ever, and even more pathetically than formerly. Last Saturday, for instance, notwithstanding a long journey, and having risen at an unusually early hour, he was in glorious voice, and sang throughout the Concert splendidly. The performances we have given in Weston, Cardiff, Swansea, and Aberystwith have been uniformly successful. Our lion pianist, the Chevalier de Kontski, takes every audience *à coup de main* and excites enthusiasm by his "Faust Fantasia," with which our programmes usually commence. His dexterity is really wonderful, and the lively tunes he has brilliantly arranged form a most enlivening introduction to the Concert. Then follows Mdlle. Liebhart in a solemn air by Mozart, much to the satisfaction of those to whom slow music is a source of pleasure, and afterwards Mdlle. Enriquez makes her first appearance in the different towns we visit. The young lady possesses a charming mezzo-soprano voice and is usually called upon to repeat her song called "She came like a dream," albeit the next piece is sung by Mario and Mdlle. Liebhart. This *Parigi o cara*, is listened to with breathless attention, and is much applauded. Sivori makes his bow after the duet, being invariably heartily received as an old favourite. The word old is hardly applicable to him. He looks like a schoolboy on the platform; so diminutive in stature and juvenile in feature it is difficult, at a distance, to believe he can be out of his teens. He is, nevertheless, old enough to have been the pupil of the famous Pagannini, who gave him lessons for two years, and he has been round the world since coming into it. He acknowledges to have been born in 1819, does the little giant, and remembers being in London as a prodigy fiddler when only eight years of age, in 1827. In 1846 he went to America, and thence to Havannah, Chili, Peru, and Rio Janeiro, where he caught the yellow fever. His first tour in England was made in 1844, under engagement to the late Frederic Beale. Sivori plays with greater skill than ever upon a violin which Pagannini, who rarely gave anything to anybody, presented to him. On the bow he uses is a miniature photograph of his celebrated master. He is as lively as the schoolboy he resembles, and has always some pleasant remark to make, with a cheerful laugh, and eyes sparkling with merriment. Honours have lately been conferred upon him in Genoa, his native city. A hall, called the *Sala Sivori*, was opened with great ceremony in December last, and a Theatre, known as the *Teatro Sivori*, in the suburbs of Genoa, has also been inaugurated. With other solos, songs, and duets, from my travelling companions, our Concerts terminate. As a contrast to the slow music, already mentioned, Madlle. Leibhart sings a merry ditty by Allen called "Sweet, Sweet," which, being invariably encored, she substitutes by "Oh dear, what can the matter be," to the intense delight of the audience, whose risible faculties are irresistibly excited by the appropriate action and pleasantly broken English of the fair-haired vocalist. Thus our time, when before the public, has been passed since the Tour began. Socially, it has been devoid of any remarkable incident. Our most exciting day was Saturday last, when it was necessary to reach Aberystwith, in time for a morning concert, from Swansea, where we appeared the evening before. The arrangements had been made irrespective of Bradshaw, who, when consulted, proved inexorable, and would provide no train by which the journey could be accomplished easily. Moreover, this authority showed, to our great consternation, that no train left Aberystwith on Sunday by which we hoped to get by easy stages to this place for to-night's performance. A council of war was held, at which it was unanimously resolved to fulfil the announcements at any risk or inconvenience. Accordingly we determined to leave Swansea for Caermarthen after the evening concert on Friday, proceed on Saturday at 6-20 a.m. to Aberystwith; leave there again the same afternoon, and take our rest, whenever we could get it, at the Ivy Bush Hotel, Caermarthen, on Saturday night. A heavy day. Following this plan we found ourselves, the day before yesterday, travelling at the rate of ten miles an hour between sunrise and midnight, and giving a concert between whiles. The journey was endured with very good will, no one complained; if any anxiety at all was experienced, it was felt by our manager, who had undertaken to get us all up in time to start.

In the short interval allowed us to give the concert, dine, and depart again from Aberystwith we saw enough of the picturesque town to make us regret leaving it so soon. The weather was glorious; brilliant sunshine and a bright blue sky had succeeded a tremendous storm of wind and rain. The sea was still rolling heavily, and breakers mountains high were dashing with noise like thunder along the echoing shore.

We all had a brisk walk while dinner was being prepared and the fresh sea breeze effectually restored us from any fatigue we had undergone. No concert during the week passed off with greater *éclat* than did that, to give which involved more trouble than all the rest. With the exception of Saturday, the conditions of a pleasant Tour seem fulfilled in the present instance. Agreeable companions most certainly form our party; the distances to travel are short, and, hitherto, the weather has been in our favour.

Walter Maynard.

SONNET.

As one who in the early days of Spring
  Wide open throws his casement to the air,
And hears on every side some glad bird sing,
  And from the orchard scents the blossoms fair;
As he remembers not the Winter snow,
  The biting blast and angry leaden sky,
So I, in your dear presence, scarcely know
  Myself the same as in the days gone by.
My heart is opened to a gentler hour,
  Your voice is dearer than the notes of birds,
Your presence gladdens as Spring's earliest flower,
  Sweeter than skylark's song your gentle words.
I cannot now bemoan the dull days spent
Whose slow-paced hours have brought such rich
    content.

St. Germain.

Important.—14, Carr's Lane, Birmingham. Established 1861, for the sale of Pure Tea. Connoisseurs pronounce the Tea sold at this Warehouse superior to any that can be obtained elsewhere. Twenty-five per cent saved in value. [24

War Maps.—One of the best War Maps published, is that presented through the medium of the Grocers, by the manufacturers of the Glenfield Starch, to all purchasers of that article. Grocers may have them by applying direct. [710

Advice to Mothers.—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist, and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately: it is perfectly harmless: it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It is very pleasant to take; it soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes.—Sold by all medicine vendors at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. [694

Diet for the Million.—Wealth no longer monopolises the luxuries of life. Persons in the most moderate circumstances can have a delicious dessert daily for a sum so trifling that it is scarcely worth naming. They can take their choice of fifty delicate dishes (each one of which the most fastidious epicure would smack his lips over), at a cost which, in these dear times, may well be called nominal. Custards, creams, blanc-mange, Charlotte Russe puddings, pies, creams, cakes, and jellies are included in this cheap and varied bill of fare. Sea Moss Farine is the most health-giving, delicious, and economical food in the world; composed entirely of refined sea-moss, and prepared with such delicacy as to retain only its nutritious qualities and exquisite flavour. A shilling packet will produce sixteen quarts of blanc-mange, custard pudding, &c. It is certainly incomparable in cheapness, excellence, and the facility with which it can be placed upon the tables of either rich or poor. In shilling packets of all Grocers and Chemists.—Rand Sea Moss Farine Co., 266, High Holborn London. [21

THE WAR.

The history of War is very like that of last week. It is a record of suspense, of complications, collateral issues, and questions of peace. The German cordon is getting itself drawn tighter and tighter round Paris, and it is getting to be more and more distinctly understood that while the French people refuse to cede territory there can be no cessation of hostilities. From the telegrams and special reports we cull the items that have the most important bearing upon the positions and relations of the contending nations, and that tend to show most clearly what may be the results of the campaign, to other nations besides those immediately engaged.

In Paris on the 15th a decree was published suspending the functions of the Councillors of State. A circular of the Minister of the Interior ordered the Prefects in all the French communes to organise the Garde Nationale Sedentaire. General Trochu issued an order of the day in which he stated that the number of men required for daily service on the ramparts would be 70,000. The enciente of Paris, defended by the persevering efforts of public spirit and 300,000 rifles, would be inaccessible. The destruction by fire of the woods and ricks in the environs of Paris continued to be effected by Franc-tireurs and Gardes Mobile. All provisions remaining at the railway station were being conveyed to the interior of Paris. It was reported the same day that the King of Prussia had rejected the offers of mediation from the United States. Mr. Washbourn, in communicating the fact to M. Favre, declared that he protested personally against the continuation of an impious war, and against useless massacres.

At Strasburg the third parallel having been completed on the 13th and 14th inst., the works commanding the glacis were reported finished. The siege train was working with great effect. The Republic was proclaimed in Strasburg on the 13th. Two days later the *Daily News* correspondent at Carlsrhue sent the following telegram :—

> General Uhrich has admitted that the situation of Strasburg is becoming desperate, owing to the inability to repair the enormous injuries caused by incessant bombardment. Additional siege guns have been sent for from Kehl. General Werder still postpones the assault in order to avoid the sacrifice of his soldiers. A Swiss Delegation has been permitted to enter Strasburg to provide for the escape of the women and children. Six hundred left on the 11th, others following daily. The Swiss report that utter destitution prevails, and that the inhabitants no longer regard accounts of French defeats as inventions of the enemy.

It has continued from day to day to be announced on the one hand that the forces in Metz were well provisioned, and on the other hand that they were starving and dying of fever. The reported escape of Bazaine from the city was unfounded.

Though the United States Government does not engage in the war, a band of 500 United States Volunteers, prepared to fight for the new Republic, arrived at Toulon on the 15th, with a supply of 7,000 rifles. From Berlin came the following statement on the 16th :—

> Twelve hundred Germans who have been expelled from Paris have petitioned the King of Prussia to insist upon their receiving a pecuniary indemnity, and they add that 80,000 Germans have been expelled from the Department of the Seine alone. Prussia will memorialize the other Powers concerning the violation of the Geneva Convention by France.

From the head quarters of the German army came the following notification of the unnecessary and useless destruction to property committed by the French in front of the Prussian line of march :—

> The enemy has blown up all the important buildings on the roads and railways leading to Paris. This destruction has been quite unnecessary, as the march of our column continues without even an hour's halt on the road.

The special correspondent of the *Standard* had a long, important, and interesting conversation with the Count Von Bismarck at Rheims on the 13th instant, of which he gave a full account in his letter home. The substance of the conversation was this: that the Prussian army would not attack Paris, but starve it out; that he could not officially recognize the present French Government, which he calls the Government of the "gentlemen of the pavement;" and though Prussia does not want French territory, as such, she will have the great French fortress on the Rhine frontier, and will "fight for ten years sooner than not obtain that security."

The following are Berlin telegrams, dated the 17th instant :—

> Bennigsen and Lasker, the Liberal leaders in the Prussian Parliament, are at Munich, with a view to confer with the Ministers there on the expediency of Bavaria joining the North German Confederacy.
>
> Toul having held out against field guns, is now being bombarded by heavy artillery. Its capture, which will open a continuous railway communication from Germany to Paris, is expected shortly. Meanwhile, the heavy guns taken at Sedan have been sent to Paris by the Northern Railway.

The following intelligence from Berlin confirms the statement of the *Standard* correspondent as to the intention of the Count Von Bismarck starving out Paris :—

> Prussia is prepared for a long campaign, 100,000 furs being ordered for the army. The Staff for besieging Paris has been appointed. It includes Colonel Rief, president of the Artillery Examination Board. A number of chymists have been sent to France to disinfect systematically hospitals and battle fields.

Here is a telegram of some interest from the Emperor's prison-palace. It is of Saturday's date :—

> Lady Cowley arrived on a mission from the Empress in the forenoon and, after a long interview with the Emperor Napoleon, returned to England in the evening.

M. Jules Favre, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, in a circular explaining the decree which hastens the election of the Constituent Assembly, and the resolution to convoke that body as soon as possible, denies that the French nation, independently of the Emperor, is responsible for the war, and repeats in effect that France can yield no territory.

There was news from Spain on Monday to the effect that a project was on foot to organise a Republican Legion to go to the aid of France.

The following telegram, dated Monday, was from the *Times* correspondent before Metz :—

> A sortie was expected last night, but, after three guns fired at midnight by the French, a signal apparently was made countermanding the sortie. We saw a small balloon sent up at midday, which was supposed to contain letters. Deserters keep coming in, who report a dreadful condition of the inhabitants. The peasants fired at officers last night. Peasants have cut the telegraph wires near Epernay, and the town has been fined 200,000f. for the offence.

It was telegraphed by the *Times* correspondent at Berlin on Monday that Prussia would not refuse to recognize any French Government willing to accept her terms of peace.

On Monday it was announced in Paris that the French Government have decided to construct a complete system of barricades, which would form a second *enceinte* around Paris. M. Rochefort is appointed President of the Commission intrusted with the execution of the plan.

It was stated in the *Gaulois* that on Sunday 400 Uhlans occupied Versailles. On Tuesday, very energetic measures were reported to have been taken by the French near Paris. Numerous vessels had been sunk in the Seine and the Marne. The fords had been rendered impassable and the bridges blown up. The villages near the fortifications had been evacuated and demolished or burnt. Three bombproof forts at St. Denis had been greatly reinforced, and protected by inundation. Earthworks being constructed at the town of St. Denis and Etains, as also on the southern heights of Clamard. A new fort has been constructed at Montretout, between St. Cloud and Suresnes, and a new railway connecting the forts has also been made. At Strasburg the batteries of the city were reported on Tuesday to be almost entirely silenced by the German fire.

From Berlin the announcement came on Tuesday that a large police force had been sent to Alsace and German Loraine, where a regular Government is now established.

A collision occurred at four e'clock on Tuesday morning at Plessis, near Tours, between two trains. Eleven persons were killed, and twenty-five injured. Among the former was M. Duval, the editor of the *Débats*.

Almost all the troops were ordered on Monday outside Paris, in order to harass the enemy, and the ramparts were manned by the National Guard. Everywhere an excellent spirit prevailed. Some trifling engagements occurred on Sunday in the direction of Fort Ivry, and the plains of Chatillon.

The following details were received relating to the engagement at Wissous:—"It is asserted that 25,000 French soldiers, massed in the rear of the Montlhery Tower, attacked 15,000 Prussians. The latter were mowed down by the French artillery, and suffered considerable loss. They re-crossed the river in order to fall back upon another Army Corps."

The political condition of France is a source of great uneasiness at this trying crisis. The telegrams on Wednesday were as follows :

> General Cluseret, a writer of the *Marseillaise*, who has been disowned by M. Rochefort and by the people, continues to post placards throughout the city endeavouring to cause a division among the citizens, and to establish a secret Government. Resolutions have been passed at Lyons that in case of Paris capitulating the right to surrender will not be recognized, but that the people will defend their country to the last man. A committee, composed of M. Estancelin, Count Kératry, and M. Jules Clarétie, has been appointed to classify the correspondence of the Emperor and Empress, which will shortly be published. The Gas Company have announced that, in view of the danger of explosion likely to result from the bombardment, they will not continue their supply beyond a few days.

The following is a French telegram of Wednesday's date : —

> A young man, whose correct name is unknown, wearing the dress of a Franc-tireur, and who since the proclamation of the Republic has been acting in the capacity of private secretary to M. Arago, the Mayor of Paris, has been arrested as a Prussian spy.

This is from Berlin :—

> General von Steinmetz has been relieved of the command of the First Army, and is appointed Governor-General of Posen. This measure has been adopted in consequence of a double command being no longer necessary before Metz.

According to an official statement made at the head-quarters of the German army, the complete investment of Paris by the advance of all the corps was accomplished on Monday, and the King reconnoitred on Tuesday the fortifications on the northern front. Two slight engagements took place on the 17th and 18th instant, and on Tuesday the French, with three divisions, made an advance south of Paris, but were completely routed and thrown back on the capital, losing seven cannon and from 2,000 to 3,000 prisoners. A telegram from the Crown Prince to the Queen, dated Versailles Monday, announces the investment of Paris on the line of Versailles to Vincennes, the French troops being driven back. The capture of an outwork and seven cannon was successfully executed with little loss. Toul was vigorously attacked on Monday. It is asserted that the enemy was repulsed, and that the Prussian guns were dismounted and broken. M. Thiers left Tours for St. Petersburg *via* Vienna on Tuesday on his diplomatic mission. According to a German telegram the Landwehr captured the Lunette No. 53, at Strasburg, by a surprise, crossing the moat just completed, and by eight a.m., the heavy infantry of the enemy was silenced.

WAR ITEMS.

Marshal MacMahon is doing well. His wound in the thigh, though large, has not injured the bone, and his life is not considered in danger.

At Wilhelmshöe, a German apprentice was arrested with a pistol in his pocket. The supposition is that he contemplated an attack on the Emperor Napoleon.

The Emperor takes his regular walks in the vicinity of the Palace of Wilhelmshöe. A few days ago a Royal carriage was sent over from Berlin, together with a team of six beautiful black horses.

It is now stated with great confidence that the Emperor Napoleon has laid by no horde of wealth in anticipation of dethronement, and that as a private gentleman he will be no richer than he was before 1848.

The five classes of the Institute of France have unanimously resolved to draw up a protest in view of the eventual bombardment of the monuments, libraries, and museums of Paris. The protest will be addressed to every Academy in the world, inviting them at the same time to give their adhesion to it.

The King of Saxony has received the following telegram from the Emperor of Russia at Zarskoe-Selo:—"In honour of the successes of your brave soldiers I take the liberty of conferring upon your son, the Crown Prince, my Military Order of St. George of the Second Class, well merited by him for having so brilliantly led them to victory. Your Majesty, I hope, will perceive in this act a fresh proof of my respect and friendship."

ONE RESULT OF THE WAR.—On Sunday evening a half-starved refugee, said to be an American by birth, but in business for many years in Paris, arrived in London hungry and penniless. Meeting with a good Samaritan, he was taken into a well known house in Fleet-street, the landlord of which was instructed to supply his wants. The process was tentative; but the result was that he consumed five plates of beef, five breads, two welsh rarebits, a shilling's worth of pickles, and eight pints of good ale. General Trochu, when he hears of the circumstance, will, no doubt, be extremely glad, in view of a close investment of Paris, that this refugee "made tracks."

There is an ancient custom among the Jews, that all parties and sects cling to with peculiar strictness, viz., to celebrate the anniversary of their parents' death by a kind of mass-reading and lighting a lamp or candle for twenty-four hours. A German military surgeon of the Jewish persuasion discovered a poor soldier running about the battle-field, evidently in search of something or some one. On the doctor asking him the object of his search, his answer was a "Jew." "I am one," replied the doctor. "Well, then, I have a request to make," said the soldier, "one of my comrades wishes to celebrate his father's death-day, and we are but nine of us (there should be ten for the service); will you make the tenth?" The surgeon gladly granted this pious request; and says he never attended a religious service with more devotion than this soul-mass.

THE PARIS FORTS.—The following is the number of cannon for which the detached forts round Paris were originally constructed:—Charenton, 70; Vincennes, 117; Nogent, 55; Rosny, 56; Noisy-le-Sec, 57; Romainville, 49; Aubervilliers, 66; Est, at St. Dennis, 47; La Double-Couronne, at the same town, 52; La Brick, close to the former, 61; Mont-Valérien, which the enemy will avoid, 70; Issy, 64; Vanves, 45; Montrouge, 43; Bicêtre, 60; Ivry, 70; in addition, the redoubts of Gravelle and Joinville. Altogether 982 guns, of which 135 are mortars. As to the fortified wall of the city, it has been prepared to receive 1,227 pieces. The air-balloon Neptune, intended for the observation of the enemy's movements during the siege of Paris, under the command of M. Nadar as captain, and MM. Camille Dartois and Jules Durouf as his lieue tenants, is now ready for launching (in a captiv-state) at the foot of the Tour de Solferino, Montmartre. The Neptune will remain permanently inflated during the siege; it is out of reach of the enemy's howitzers.

AN AMUSING STORY.—The following story is from the letter of a German soldier to his parents in Stuttgard, which has been forwarded to the *Echo*:—"I must tell you a nice joke we had. We had been patrolling, four of us, the whole day in the neighbourhood of Bar-le-Duc, and were wet to the skin. The rain was just commencing with new vigour when we saw a farmhouse in the distance, where we resolved to stand up. The house was deserted by the inhabitants, who had carried away with them all eatables. We, therefore, took some bread out of our knapsacks, which, with a jug of fresh water, we considered a splendid meal. All at once we heard great noise and clashing of arms, and about one hundred yards from the house we saw some twelve Turcos approaching. What was to be done? Surrender? No. Run away? Neither. We were resolved to defend ourselves to the last. Suddenly I caught sight of a double-bass which was standing in a corner. I called to my comrades to fire at the Turcos and then to attack them with the bayonet. I myself took hold of the big fiddle and began to play with might and main, making the most fearful noise. The moment the Turcos heard it, they turned, threw away their rifles, and began to run, my comrades after them, and took the whole lot of them prisoners. The black devils went down on their knees, pointing, with all signs of horrors, to the house in which the big fiddle was still being played. I only understood from their talking, the word "lion," which showed that the fellows had taken the noise of the fiddle for the roar of a lion. We bound them together, and brought them to Bar-le-Duc, and often afterwards we laughed about this capital joke."

THE IRON CROSS OF PRUSSIA.—This order, which holds the highest rank in Prussia, was instituted in March, 1813, by Frederick William III., in honor of the memory of his deceased wife, Queen Louisa. Just a year afterward, on the first anniversary of its institution, it was bestowed upon his son, Prince William, now King of Prussia, in recognition of a daring action under fire; and he still wears its Iron Cross as the proudest decoration on his breast. On the 19th of July of this year, the anniversary of his mother's death, the King decided upon the renewal of the order, with special reference to the war then impending with France. "In view of the serious position of affairs in Germany" (so runs the decree), "and in grateful remembrance of the heroism of our forefathers in the great war of Liberation, I have resolved to revive, in its full significance, the Order of the Iron Cross, instituted by my revered father." The new cross differs from that of 1813—1815 only in the substitution of a W for F W, and in the date. The material is gold, with black enameling. The black ribbon with a white border indicates service in the field; the white ribbon with a black border, service at home. There are two classes, First and Second, and a large cross, which is to be bestowed for a decisive victory, or for the capture or the successful defence of an important fortress. The cross of the second class was recently bestowed by the King upon the Crown Prince of Prussia for his victories over MacMahon.

THE ROMAN QUESTION.

The Roman question in Italy has been approaching a climax this week, though slowly. On the 15th, Prince Odescalechi, at the head of the inhabitants, hoisted the national flag at the Castle of Bracciano. Armed citizens were marching towards Rome. An announcement of the Florence press on the 15th ran thus :—

> Rome will be occupied by the Italian troops, and a Plébiscite of the people of the Papal State will be taken. The Italian public are satisfied with this decision, and prefer it to a more revolutionary initiative.

The Pope and his official supporters profess that they are unwilling to oppose by armed force the Italian occupation of Rome, but they assert that the Papal Zouaves, of their own accord, insist upon offering opposition. The following are telegrams received on the 16th :—

> A squadron of lancers of the 4th *Corps d'Armée*, sent yesterday to reconnoitre, came unexpectedly upon the advanced guard of the Pontifical troops about three kilometres from Rome. They were received with a volley. The squadron at once charged the Zouaves, forcing them to retire on their supports. In the skirmish three Zouaves were killed and three wounded, and on the Italian side one man was killed and three wounded. The Italian head-quarters were fourteen kilometres from Rome. General Bixio arrived yesterday at Corneto, twenty kilometres from Civita Vecchia. Yesterday the Italian fleet arrived in the Civita Vecchia waters. Admiral del Carretto and General Bixio afterwards had an interview. The division of General Angioletti entered Anagni to-day, and will probably occupy Velletri and Valmontone. Many gendarmes and custom-house guards and some dragoons have spontaneously joined the Italian troops. National demonstrations are being made in several communes, and the troops are everywhere received with acclamation. The Italian troops have entered Civita Vecchia without resistance.

We give other important items of intelligence in the order of date :—

> General Cadorna crossed the Tiber at Casale on Saturday. Notwithstanding two refusals returned to his offers of truce, the General, upon a request from Rome, consented to delay his operations for entering the city for twenty-four hours.
>
> The Italian troops were received with enthusiasm at Civita Vecchia. Tricolour flags were hoisted and shouts were raised of "Long live the King of Italy." This result, obtained without a drop of blood being shed, is due to the energy of General Bixio during the negociations with the Papal authorities.
>
> The *Indépendance Italienne* says: "It would appear that the Pope will not leave Rome if the Castle of St. Angelo and the Leonine city are not occupied by the Italian troops. It seems certain that both the castle and city will be left free."
>
> The *Opinione* says it is only the Zouaves who wish to resist the Italian troops. The streets of Rome are crowded with people. The citizens have decided not to oppose any resistance to the entry of Italian troops, and have sent a deputation with an address to Cardinal Antonelli, expressing the hope that bloodshed may be averted by preventing the Zouaves from fighting. The authorities are said to have declared that the Zouaves refuse to obey their orders, and the population are in consequence very uneasy.
>
> The Royal troops entered Velletri on the 16th inst. The Angioletti Division leaves Florence for Rome to-day (Sunday). General Bixio is marching upon Rome.

On Monday it was telegraphed from Florence that the North German Minister, Count Von Arnim, had written to General Cadarna that his efforts to induce the Papal Zouaves to give up all thoughts of resistance had been unsuccessful. The Zouaves had fired from the walls and wounded countrywomen and children. The Italian troops, under General Cadorna, did not return the fire; but after the unfriendly reception made to the bearer of a flag of truce, and the failure of Count Arnim's mission, anxious to avoid a useless effusion of blood, the Italian General had directed his troops to take up their positions in great force, so as to begin immediate operations. A very feeble resistance was anticipated.

At 11 o'clock on Tuesday night this telegram was despatched from Florence: — To-day the Royal troops entered Rome, after a short resistance from the foreign soldiery, who desisted from firing by order of the Pope." Another telegram of the same date, however, spoke of the occupation in different terms:—"The Italian troops entered the city to-day after an engagement with the Papal troops which lasted four hours. The latter had refused to obey the orders of the Pope, who wished to avert bloodshed."

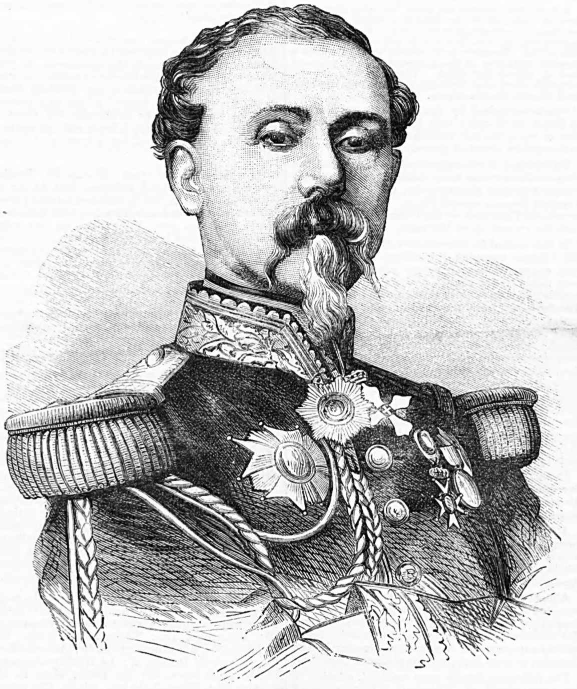
PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.—The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* of Friday contained a special telegram, nearly a column in length, from Canada, reporting the particulars of the great Anglo-Canadian boat race by the St. John's crew (Canadian) and the Tyne crew (English) on the waters of the St. Lawrence. The report concluded as follows; "The Tyne men are leading. Further particulars will be issued as tht telegrams come to hand."

FATAL DUEL.—A Savannah paper gives an account of a duel recently fought between Captain Aiken and Mr. Cohen, two gentlemen of that city. The two principals, with their seconds and surgeons, and "accompanied by a few friends," proceeded to a plantation five miles from Savannah; twelve paces were measured, and the parties took their places with old-style duelling pistols, smooth-bore, and a three-fourths ounce ball. Four shots were fired, after each of which propositions were made and questions as to whether the parties were satisfied, to which the answer was "No." At the fifth shot Mr. Cohen fired immediately at the word, his antagonist pulling the trigger immediately after, and as the event proved, fatally ending the quarrel. Mr. Cohen died in a few hours. Before his death Captain Aiken, the challenger, delivered himself up to a justice, and was held to bail in 5000 dollars.

The Place of Refuge, during this hot weather, STEELE'S HAIRCUTTING SALOONS. The Largest and Coolest in the three Kingdoms. Extra Assistants to meet the large demands for Shampooing with eggs, &c. Streams of warm, tepid, and cold water—a delightful operation—a necessity and a luxury. Moderate charges. The largest and best 6d. and 1s. bottle of Pomade in the trade; has had an immense sale for eighteen years. Choice Hair Washes, from 1s. 6d. Lime Cream, from 1s. Genuine and delightfully perfumed Lime Juice and Glycerine, from 1s. to 6s. A very large assortment of Hair, Tooth, Nail, Hat, and Cloth Brushes, by best makers, from 1s. Dressing Combs in *Tortoiseshell, Bone, Ivory, Horn*, and *Vulcanite*, from 6d. A splendid variety of fancy Back Combs, from 1s. to 50s. Large selection of Fans from 6d. to 60s., including the newest shapes and patterns. The largest stock of Toilet Requisites and Fancy Goods in the Midland Counties, selected from the best houses of Paris and London, at STEELE'S, HAIR CUTTER and ARTIST in HAIR, Opposite the Railway Station, New Street, Birmingham.

GENERAL LE BRUN.

The comely looking French officer whose portrait is engraved on this page went out to the War as aide-de-camp to the Emperor, and General of Division. As Chief of the Staff of the Army of the Rhine, he had, under his Majesty, the direction of the plans of the campaign. He was one of the first whose position was sacrificed to the evil fortunes of the war. When the Emperor ceased to command Le Bœuf resigned, and Le Brun's resignation was sent in at the same time. Marshall Bazaine, who was entrusted with the post of the Chief of the forces, promoted General Jarras to the office which had been held by Le Brun, and the latter was made Commander of the 12th Army Corps, in place of General Trochu, who was called to be Governor of Paris. General Le Brun is a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour.



GENERAL LE BRUN.

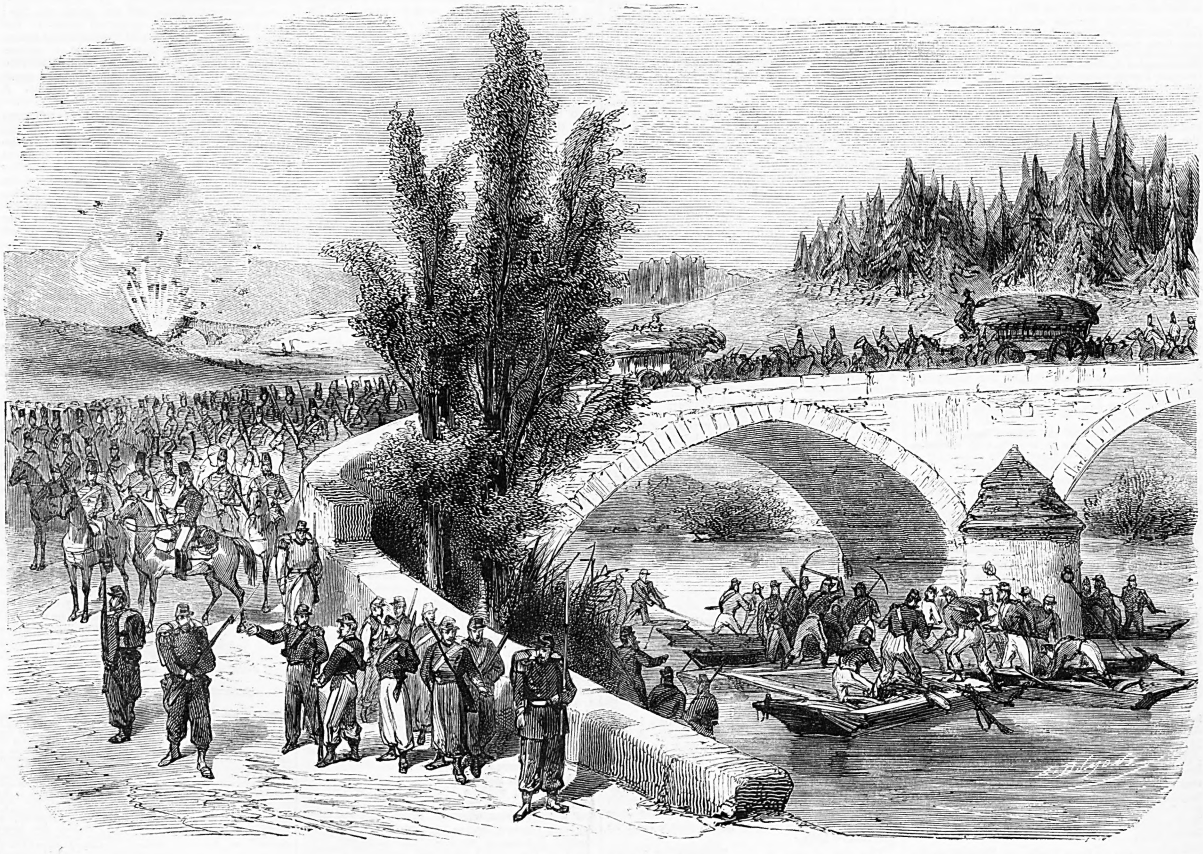
BRIDGES ON THE MOSELLE.

The Moselle has seen more of this war than any other stream in Northern France, and its bridges have undergone a good many engineering operations. A few days before the battle of Gravelotte, while the French troops were crossing the river above Metz, the Prussians were crossing it a little above Gortz, at a village called Noviant, in order to throw themselves across the route to Verdun and cut off the retreat of Bazaine from Metz. It is the bridge of Noviant which is depicted in our engraving. It is constructed of stone, and very massive, and the French military engineers had tried in vain to blow it up only a a few days before it became so serviceable to their enemies. Our sketch shows the French soldiers in the act of making preparations for destroying the bridge. Their labours, so futile in this instance, had been more successful in the case of several other bridges across the Moselle. Those of Longeville and Ars, for example, were a mass of ruins when the Prussians passed over the impregnable stone structure at Noviant. Not far up the stream a bridge may be seen in this picture at the moment of explosion.

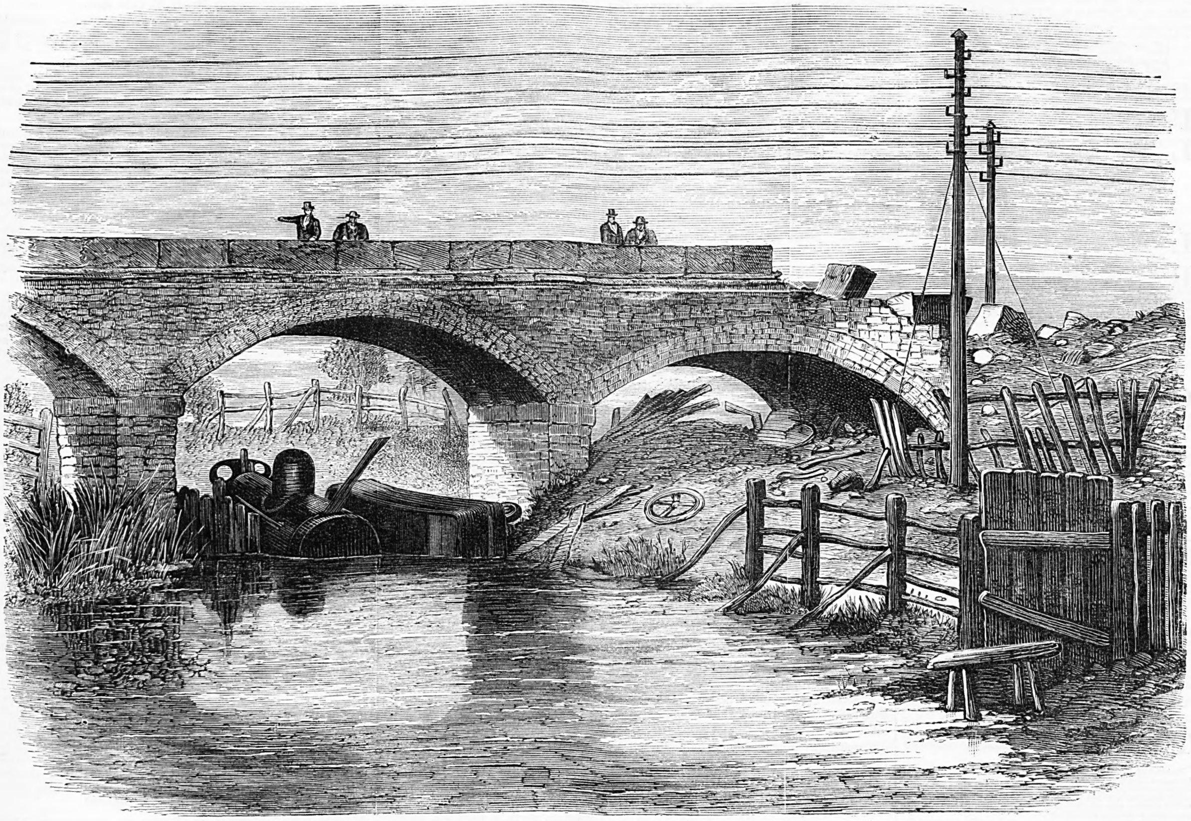
The Falls of Niagara Surpassed.—The Colonial Government geologists, Messsrs. Sawkins and Brown, have discovered magnificent waterfalls—far exceeding those of Niagara—in Demerara, British Guiana. They are on the upper part of the Potaro River, three days' journey from the colonial penal settlement, and within 100 miles from the capital of the colony. Although so near, comparatively, to European settlements, they have hitherto remained unknown to civilised men, and are but rarely visited by the Indians, who have not appreciated their marvellous character. The falls consist of two leaps, one being a perpendicular fall of 770 feet, and the second over 50 feet. The volume of water, measured in the dry season, is 28 feet in depth and nearly 100 yards broad. The Government of the colony have undertaken to open up the neighbourhood and give facilities to visitors. The Niagara Falls are 160 feet high.

MARSHAL MACMAHON.

The portrait of the famous French commander, the Duke of Magenta, given on page 197, is from an admirable German photograph. It conveys an excellent impression of the great soldier of whom M. About said that he looked "as fresh as a rose" on his retreat from the awful disaster of Woerth. Marshal MacMahon is descended from an old Irish Catholic family, who held to the cause of the Stuarts in the days of their adversity. He was born in 1808, and received his military education at the School of St. Cyr. Like every officer of experience in the French army, he began his life as a soldier in Algeria, and he won distinction in the capture of Constantine. In 1832, acting as aide-de-camp to General Achard, he took part in the siege of Antwerp. He was made a major of Foot Chasseurs in 1840, Lieut.-Col. of the Foreign Legion in 1842, Colonel of the Forty-first Line in 1845, and General of Brigade in 1848. In 1855 he took the command of a division in the Crimea, and made his name famous in that war by the brilliant capture of the fortress of Malakoff, for which he was rewarded with the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour and a place in the Senate. After the Crimean War he performed good service again in Algeria, and in 1859, in the French War in Italy against Austria, he performed such feats of Generalship at the battle of Magenta that after the war he was created Duke of Magenta, and made a Marshal of France. He was chosen by the Emperor to represent France at the coronation of King William of Prussia in 1861, and he made a great impression on that occasion by the splendour of his display. In his character of Governor of Algeria he had a character for great severity. His career in the present campaign has been a series of disasters for which, however, he ought not to be held largely responsible; for he was not Commander-in-Chief of the Forces when he was cut off from the army of Bazaine and confronted by a force of three times as large as his own; and the battle of Sedan was the result of orders received from General Palikao, the Minister for War at Paris. MacMahon would never have attempted to join Bazaine if left to his own judgment, but would have fallen back upon Paris and got his forces recruited before venturing upon a decisive engagement. For a man of such high reputation, and after a brilliant military career, his present position, wounded and a prisoner in the hands of the enemies of his country, after having suffered two of the greatest defeats ever inflicted upon France, is very painful. It is not likely that the opportunity will ever be given him to repair the damage which has befallen his reputation in this terrible conflict.



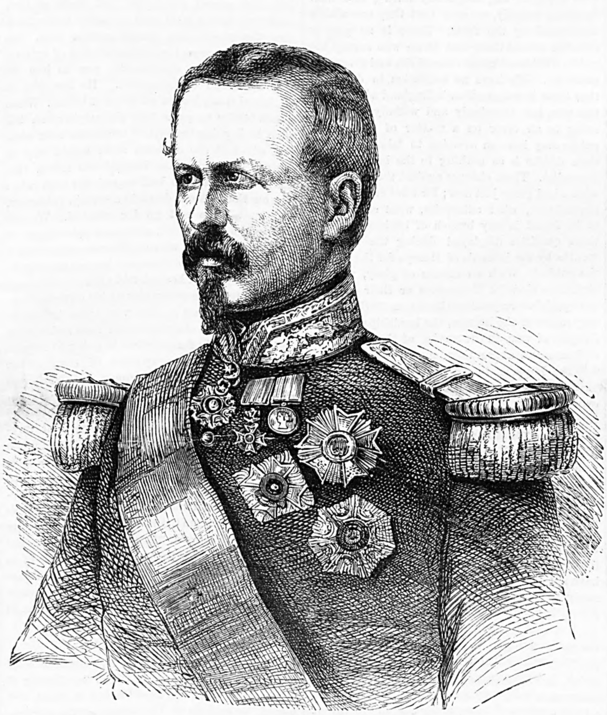
THE FRENCH ATTEMPTING TO DESTROY A BRIDGE ON THE MOSELLE.



THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT TAMWORTH.

THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT TAMWORTH.

The engraving on this page is a faithful delineation of the scene of the late fatal and extraordinary railway accident at Tamworth, of which we gave a brief account in our last impression. The train was one which left Holyhead at five minutes before twelve o'clock on Tuesday night last week, and was due in London at a quarter before seven in the morning. It should arrive at Tamworth station, without stopping there, at three minutes before four o'clock. The cause of the accident was a mistake made by the pointsman at the Tamworth station, a man named Evans, who had been about six years in the service of the Company. A new system of signalling, known as Saxby and Farmer's, which acts in concert with the movements of the points, has been in use on this part of the line for about four months; and Evans, as pointsman, was entrusted with the working of it at Tamworth station. A goods train from Manchester was due at Tamworth about three o'clock, and had it arrived it would have been the pointsman's duty to shunt it on to a siding until the mail train had passed. This siding joins the main line at a very short distance from the station platforms on the Holyhead side, runs close in front of the left-hand platform going to London, and continues on for a few hundred yards, as far as a bridge crossing a small river called the Anker, where it terminates. The Anker, a tributary of the Tame, is about 25ft. wide at the place where the railway crosses it, and is said to be about 6ft. deep. From some cause or other the goods train did not arrive, and when the mail approached the station, about one minute, it is stated, after its time, the pointsman mistook it for the goods train. The mail train approached at its usual speed and the pointsman, acting upon the above supposition, shifted the points so as to make it run on to the siding. This operation produced a corresponding movement in the signal-post, which then indicated that the main line was blocked. If this signal was observed at all from the train, it was observed when too late, as the train ran on to the siding and dashed past the platform with fearful velocity. No doubt the driver, who is one of those killed, perceived the danger as soon as he felt the engine swerving from the main line, and most probably he shut off steam, but it was then beyond human power to avert the catastrophe which followed. The train rushed on until the engine encountered the stop blocks at the end of the siding. These it thrust out of its way, and then went down a steep bank into the river, five of the carriages, a guard's van, and the post-office van following it; some of them, however, not falling into the river, but remaining on the side of the bank. The parapet of the bridge was carried away for several yards. The engine, which made a plunge into the river, got separated from its tender, and fell under one of the three arches of the bridge, having made a complete somersault in its way. The tender fell on its side close to the engine. The carriages were of course, with the exception of the three that remained on the line, smashed to pieces, some of them being reduced to shapeless masses of splinters. Previous to the occurrence, the guard's van was attached to the tender. Behind this was a composite carriage, which was followed by the post-office van and tender, and then came the remainder of the carriages. The guard's van, which remained on the side of the bank, was reduced to fragments. One carriage which, apparently, had struck the bridge, was completely divided lengthwise, one part falling in the river beyond the engine, and the other remaining on the bank. Another carriage rolled over and fell on the tender, where it lay in a very ruined condition. The post-office van lay with a portion projecting over a reservoir, which is situated close to the river and the railway, in the angle formed by the two. A number of the letter bags fell into the river. Three persons were killed—the Rev. Mr. Healy, Roman Catholic priest; Samuel Taylor, the engine driver; and Thomas Davis, the fireman. The body of Mr. Healy was found in the river; that of the fireman was found between the engine and its tender in the river, and that of the driver underneath one of the arches of the bridge. The guard was seriously hurt. The passengers, except Mr. Healy, almost escaped injury. When it is mentioned that the edge of the reservoir—which is 20 feet deep, and into which Clarke, with the mail bags and the splintered upper portion of his van, was thrown—is only about 12 feet from the parapet of the bridge, and that along this narrow space the engine, dragging after it the forepart of the train, passed before falling into the Anker, the miraculous escape of the majority of the passengers may be imagined. Had the engine swerved a little to the left and fallen into the reservoir, the consequences would have been much more serious than they were. Clarke saved his life by swimming in the reservoir, but it was impossible for him to get out, and he was much exhausted before his cries brought assistance. It is very remarkable to note the eccentric course the engine took before it found its way into the river. An inquest was opened on the 15th, and adjourned till to-day.



MARSHAL MACMAHON. (*See page 196.*)

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The flood of pictures from the Seat of War continues to compel the postponement of the publication of our "A.B.C. of Ornamental Design."

The Illustrated MIDLAND NEWS

BIRMINGHAM, SEPT. 24, 1870.

Speculation as to the demands of Prussia are put an end to by the plain speaking of the Count Von Bismarck. He intends to have the principal fortresses of the Rhine district of France. That is the only basis upon which he will listen to negotiations for peace, and so long as France says she will yield no territory the war must go on. There are some signs that the French people would not be wholly unwilling to accept the terms, but they are afraid of one another. The Provisional Government would probably not be indisposed to yield; but they know their countrymen, and they shrink from the responsibility. In their hearts the people would most likely be thankful for such an ending of the campaign; but they would put all the disgrace of it on the Government that consented to the terms, and those statesmen would be thenceforward under a ban. For in French politics there is very little justice and no generosity. Those who cried "Vive la guerre!" are the same who tore down the Emperor's initials from the walls of Paris because he went to war; and the men who are least disposed to do battle with the enemy on the ramparts—those who would the most eagerly hail the ratification of peace at any price—would be the first to denounce, with execrations, those who, in their name, accepted Bismarck's terms. At this moment, as at many a previous crisis in her history, the curse of France is her utter destitution in the matter of true political feeling and political principle.

The occupation of Versailles by Prussian troops will be regarded henceforward as one of the landmarks in the history of Europe. It puts the stamp upon an epoch. To this pass has come the splendour and the pride of the *Grand Siécle*.

Already is the mind of Germany occupied with the question of the form German unity shall take. Wait a little while and we shall see what different ideas are entertained by the Count Von Bismarck and the politicians of South Germany who have so hated the Minister President and so dreaded Prussian dominance.

A word of remonstrance with an esteemed correspondent. He proposes, in excellent diction, which we should have pleasure in transferring to our columns were it not that were are wholly at issue with him on the topic he treats, to make a bonfire of all the daily papers, and, if we understand him aright, to consume the editors and printers in the burning pile! For what offence? For "promulgating lies." For entertaining no regard for truth. For giving currency to canards one day and contradicting them the next. Those are old charges against journalism, which have been repeated very frequently during this war. Speaking broadly, we aver that they are wholly unjustified by the facts. There is no greater delusion abroad than that those who supply the public with intelligence concoct lies and give them publicity. We have no hesitation in declaring that there is not an editor in England who, during this war, has knowingly and wilfully given currency to an error on a matter of fact. The public may have an aversion to falsehoods; but their dislike is as nothing to the hatred of the journalist. These charges against the press come with a bad grace just now; for what energy, what expenditure, what enterprise, what sacrifice are to be found in any branch of business equal to those qualities displayed during the last two months by the journals of Europe for the sake of the public? With no chance of glory, without striking a blow for themselves or their country, our special correspondents have gone forth into the very midst of the horrors, the hardships, and the dangers of war, in the service of those who stay at home and abuse them mercilessly if a stray mistake happens to get printed. Not any pay that they can receive, not any honours that will ever be theirs for the work they are doing, can compensate these gentlemen for what they have endured in the Rhine provinces since the middle of July as soldiers of the press. They are generally men whose pens would gain for them an honourable and lucrative subsistence at home, and only a certain devoted enthusiasm in their profession carries them to the war. In spite of immense difficulties they have told the story of this frightful struggle with great power and, upon the whole, with remarkable accuracy, and they have not deserved the reprobation that people are ready to heap upon them because an incorrect report happens to circulate that MacMahon is dead, or that Bazaine has escaped from Metz. If the public will give the subject a moment's reflection they will see that they owe a debt to journalism which is by no means paid when they give a penny or a halfpenny for a newspaper containing a large amount of news, many columns of literature of a very high class, and a marvellously small proportion of error.

TABLE TALK.

A week ago at the particular table set up in this column we gossiped over the reputation of the unfortunate man who does not indulge in or encourage chit-chat on matters of other than domestic interest at home. The breakfast table next door is an example of another sort. The mistress of the house narrates the plot of the last drama she saw; the young ladies give analyses and delineations of character fresh from school; the visitor is a clever mimic of odd people; the master of the house, who has heard a good many things the day before about his partner's wife and family and their domestic pleasures and troubles, brings home every scrap. He does not appear to pay much attention to certain items of information that reach him at the office or the warehouse. They are rather beneath his dignity, and he is but a passive and tolerant recipient of the anecdotes and descriptions of circumstances—no concern of his—which genial friends, suspecting the sympathetic nature of his mind, put him in possession of; but he saves them all up and takes them home. He knows there is a constant demand round the fire for provender of that description, and he will contribute his share. Have you a genial confidant? You would be astonished if you could know how many of the secrets of your own home and bosom and family have the run of that man's household. You would declare that you never revealed to him one half of what his wife knows about you and your ways and doings and peculiarities. We laugh at women about not keeping their secrets, but how many secrets of a domestic or social sort do men keep inviolate from those prying eyes under whose influence they fall when they escape from the outside world? The sympathetic man is, with more or less discretion, a communicative man. It runs in his blood to exchange his store of facts for others that tend to elucidate them. The man who takes the greatest interest in life is not a mere spectator. He who is only a looker on does not see very much, in spite of the proverb. Most things are dull and commonplace to him. There are only a limited number of words in our language in common use, and every one of them is very stale, and not worth listening to taken by itself. It is the context that gives the variety, and it is the context that gives the interest. So it is with men's actions. One man walks down the street to the corner, stops a moment, hesitates, looks at his watch, turns slowly, deliberately retraces his steps, and presently walks back on his track at full speed. Another does very much the same, and perhaps another and another. What can be more monotonous, dull, and uninteresting? But the keen man, the sympathetic, the analyst of human character, detects the difference, or discovers it by an indescribable process of inference, and in every one of those cases he may discover the key to a little story: perhaps romantic, perhaps comic, perhaps tragic. A magazine writer, whose words have been considerably quoted within the last week or two, confesses, with a good deal of artful artlessness, that the people and things around him, the talk, the discourse, the argumentation of writers, the advocacy of doctrinaries, are to him all very stale and commonplace. He has seen it all, heard it all, known all about it before. When a man begins to prate this philosopher can tell what he is going to say, and is familiar with what one, who took the opposite view, would say in reply. The writer has learned too much. He has made himself too well acquainted with what lies on the surface, down to a certain thickness, and let all the rest go for granted. We are taking him at his word, and not at our estimate of him, for the man who could write with such a peculiar ingenuity of frankness has not been quite frank enough, and has not told all the truth about himself. But, accepting him on his own showing, we should say that he sees very little indeed in the course of his observations of men and women and things. He forsees what is going to happen because in a large proportion of cases rather common sorts of things happen, but he is not prepared for the exception, and it is the exception that gives the interest. He is not surprised at the exception. He is not surprised at anything. Why? Because he does not detect much absolute difference between one man and another, and the first man he meets in whom he discerns nothing particular may be a genius or a murderer. He has made up his mind to that and so takes it coolly when the revelation comes. Happy are they who break through that conventional crust. Life is to them a real drama. It is pleasant to have such round one's breakfast table. We must go to the ladies to be made really free of the charm: They are the keen students of human nature.

Wounded French Generals.—Generals Wolf and Cambriels, who escaped from the disaster of Sedan, both wounded, have arrived in Paris, and placed themselves at the orders of the government. General Ducrot has also reached the capital for the same purpose.—*Galignani.*

NEWS OF THE MIDLANDS.

The Recordership of Bristol is likely to be conferred on Mr. H. T. Cole, Q.C.

The Midland Institute.—We are informed that Professor Seeley's forthcoming lecture at the Midland Institute, Birmingham, will be on the "Age of Goethe and Schiller."

The Chatterly Iron Company's works near Tunstall, in Staffordshire, was the scene of a boiler explosion on Saturday, by which two lives were lost and six persons severely injured.

It is rumoured that the Earl of Dudley has offered his beautiful seat, Witley Court, near Worcester, as a temporary residence for the Empress Eugènie and the Prince Imperial. The Earl and Countess of Dudley are now in Scotland.

The old silver mace of the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, which dates probably from the time of Queen Elizabeth, and was sadly battered and defaced, has been very handsomely restored by Mr. Keith, of London, the ecclesiastical silversmith. The mace is of solid silver, but part of it has been gilded as before.

Garrick's Chair.—An interesting and valuable relic of the greatest actor who ever adorned the British stage is now in the possession of Mr. Fred Williams, of Saltley. It consists of an antique chair of solid oak, curiously carved, bearing on the border of its back panel the inscription "David Garrick, 1774, Grub Street," and upon the panel itself the Shakesperian motto, "All the world 's a stage." A larger chair, adorned with the name and titles of Sir Godfrey Kneller, carved in a somewhat similar fashion, is also in the possession of Mr. Williams.

The large towns are beginning to take measures for establishing Museums of Art, especially applicable to their respective industries. The Birmingham subscription amounts to £1,200. At Sheffield, Mr. W. Bragge, the new Master Cutler, has just declared his intention during his year of office to establish a museum in Sheffield useful to the art-industry of the town; and at a meeting which was held for the purpose of appointing a committee to promote the work, Mr. Cole, on behalf of the Science and Art Department, stated what assistance in aid could be demanded from the Government.

The Birmingham Gun Trade.—Such has been the demand during the past two months for breech loaders (says the *Birmingham Daily Gazette*), that at the present moment there is scarcely a gun of any pattern to be purchased in Birmingham. The Franco-German war has been quite a godsend to the gun-trade, as it has brought purchasers from all quarters for whole lots of arms left rusting in warehouses and cellars, under the belief that they had long since been superseded by other inventions. The Small Arms Company are busy making Sniders for Government, and it will take a considerable time before the orders on hand are completed.

Attempt to Upset an Excursion Train near Matlock.—About half-past ten on Tuesday evening, as the excursion train from Manchester was nearing Matlock Bridge Station, on the Midland Railway, between Derby and Manchester, the driver discovered a platelayer's hut in flames. Some men were set to work to extinguish the fire, and they discovered on one of the rails of the down line an iron chair placed upside down on the metal, and close to a permanent chair, with a view, evidently, to prevent the loose chair from slipping, when coming in contact with the train. It is also believed that the hut, which is immediately opposite this point, was set on fire for the purpose of diverting the attention of the driver of the next down train, in order to render a catastrophe the more certain and complete.

The Wages Agitation Among South Staffordshire Ironworkers.—A mass meeting of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire ironworkers was held on Tuesday, at Great Bridge, to consider the answer of the ironmasters to their appeal for an increase of 1s per ton for puddlers and 10 per cent. for all other branches. There were 500 men present, and most of them were delegates, representing large works. The chairman read the official answer of the masters, who stated it was impossiple at that moment to raise the price of iron, and therefore to give the men an increase of wages. The meeting partially accepted the answer, but it was resolved "That this meeting abandons the appeal for a 1s. per ton increase, but demands an immediate rise of 6d. per ton, in order that all ironworkers in the district may be on equal terms; the said 6d. being due to them according to promise in 1869, whether iron was raised in price or not." The meeting also agreed that the delegates present should wait personally on the masters with the result of the meeting.

Birmingham Volunteers.—The annual prize shooting competition by the members of No. 5 Company of Rifle Volunteers, took place on Monday, at Bournbrook. The competitors numbered 31, and the average score per man was 6·70. Adjutant-Major Tarte was in attendance upon the ground. The ranges were 200, 500, and 600 yards for the general competition, 200 and 400 for consolation prizes, and 200 and 400 for recruits. In the evening the company partook of dinner, provided for them at the Gun Barrels, after which the prizes were distributed by Captain Walford. The following is the prize list:—Best attendance prizes: Lance-Corporal Robinson, Private Jenkins (attended every drill), Private Allchurch, Sergeant Field, Corporal Edwards.—Classification prizes: Private Anthony, 154 points; Sergeant Wallis, 146; Corporal Woodland, 136.—Competition prizes: Captain Walford, 44; Sergeant Farmer, 39; Colour-Sergeant Daniel, 38; Sergeant Wallis, 30; Private Round, 30; Private Wilday, 28; Sergeant Field, 28; Bugler Pember, 28; Lance-Corporal Robinson, 27; Private Sandbrook, 26; Sergeant Hopwood, 25; Private Glover, 25; Private Bissell, 24; Private Betteredge, 23; Private Jenkins, 22.—Recruits' prizes: Waldron, 22; Watts, 19; Cole, 14.—Consolation prizes: Private Anthony, 28; Corporal Woodland, 26; Private Palmer, 25; Private Heath, 25; Private Margett, 21; Private Plummer, 21; Lance-Corporal Harrison, 21; Corporal Edwards, 19; Private Watkins, 18; Private Wilson, 18; Private Bromfield, 15.

Norwich Election Petition.—The feeling is gaining ground in Norwich that the petition against the return of Mr. Tillet for that city will not be proceeded with.

The Sutton Park (Birmingham Autumn) Races proved a great success. The weather, (contrary to that at the Spring meeting) was beautifully fine, and the attendance very large.

Staffordshire Agricultural Society.—The general exhibition took place on Thursday, on the Race Ground, and was more than ordinarily attractive. The attendance was large.

Wombwell's Menagerie.—Wombwell's "Royal No. 1. Menagerie" will pitch its tent in Birmingham during the Onion Fair. We hear great accounts of this collection of beasts and of the daring performances of Lorenzo, the Lion Tamer. Among the recent additions to the large stock of animals is a fine specimen of the brindled gnu, which is said to possess the distinct characteristics of several *genera*, such as the yak, the bull, the quagga, the antelope, the horse, &c., all being distinctly and definitely traceable.

Murder in Leicestershire.—A shocking murder occurred on Monday night at Barrow-on-Soar, about 10 miles from Leicester. It appears that about half-past eight o'clock, Thomas Knight, aged 58, a carrier between Barrow and Loughborough, having completed his day's work, went into the Limekiln beerhouse, at Barrow, for the purpose of having "an evening glass," when he met with a framework knitter named George Perkins, twenty-two years of age. They quarrelled and Perkins got up from his seat, and striking Knight a severe blow felled him to the ground. A scuffle took place on the floor, and at length Perkins was pulled away, and Knight left the house to go to his home. Perkins followed, and when about 150 yards from the beerhouse in the main, or North-street, got up to Knight, struck him and knocked him down, and when down kicked him savagely about the head and various parts of the body. Twice he was pulled off by a man named John Cooke, but still the accused continued to kick and belabour the deceased, who called out for mercy. A man, named John Middleton, however intervened, and took Knight away to his home, where he died in about five minutes. Perkins was afterwards apprehended, and charged with wilful murder, upon which he replied, "I am sorry he is dead. I did not intend to kill him, but it is malice." He was conveyed to Loughborough. The inquest was held on Wednesday at Barrow-on-Soar, and a verdict of "Wilful Murder" returned against Perkins.

Worcester Hop, Cheese, and Stock Fair.—The annual great fair for the sale of hops, cheese, and farming stock, was held on Monday and brought a large number of merchants, dealers, and tradesmen. The cattle market was well supplied with sheep, and of rams there was, as usual at this fair, a very large collection, most flockmasters of the district making their selection at this fair for the year's breeding. The prices varied as much as the quality, but Shropshire and Cotswold rams were most in request, and some first-rate breeds averaged £10 to £12 each; fat mutton, 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; lamb, 7½d. per lb.; beef, 8d. to 8½d. There were few horses in the market, most of them "screws." The cheese market has for some years fallen off, the produce of each dairy being now sold on the spot. A good deal of the cheese in the fair was American. The hop market was the great feature of the day's business, this having been an unprecedented year for hops in the Worcestershire and Herefordshire district. There was a very large attendance of planters, dealers, merchants, and brewers, from London, Manchester, Burton, Liverpool, and the North. About 4000 pockets were in the market on sale. In the beginning of the day business was slack, planters asking more money than merchants and brewers would give; but later in the day a good many hops changed hands. The samples varied much, and the prices realised £5 to £5 5s. per cwt.: middlings, 70s. to 80s.; and low qualities, 63s., and even less. A good many hops were damaged by the high winds a fortnight since.

Fatal Quarrel at Sheffield.—Between six and seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, a quarrel, which has unfortunately resulted in the death of a man named James Parker, took place at the works of Messrs. Gray and Co., Pond-hill, Sheffield. The deceased was employed upon the "night shift," and was working with a man named Thomas Connell, a wire worker, the deceased's duty being to clean the wire before it went into the hands of Connell to galvanize. The deceased had for some time past been a teetotaler, but recently he has given way to drink, and it is said he had not been sober for several days. He was considerably the worse for liquor on Tuesday morning, and whilst in that state he was generally very quarrelsome. How the quarrel which has ended so sadly commenced, does not seem to be very well known. One version is that some words took place between the deceased and Connell, and that the former struck him two or three times. Connell was unwilling to fight, but at length said if the deceased struck him again he "would let him have one." The deceased thereupon hit Connell again, and Connell then struck him a blow which sent him reeling backwards. In falling, his head came in contact with the corner of a stone trough, and he sustained a very serious wound on the right side of the head. Another version is that the quarrel was commenced by Connell, and that the deceased was at that time unwilling to fight, telling Connell that he would fight him when he got sober; that Connell struck him several times, and that it was one of these blows that knocked him down. The deceased was sent home in the company of a shopmate, and he with some difficulty was able to get to his house in Sydney-street. At that time it does not appear that his injury was thought much of, for he went to bed, and his wife did not go upstairs to wake him till the evening, when she saw that he was dying. A medical man was sent for, and Dr. Carr shortly arrived, but before then death had taken place, the cause of death being the injury to the head. The police were communicated with, and Connell, who lives in Porter-street, was taken into custody by Sub-inspector Newham. The deceased was a married man, and leaves a wife and four children.

THE ROYAL BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS.

[Fourth Notice.]

101. "Near South Brent, Devon." H. Stanmore.—It is placed too high to be properly seen. This has been done out of kindness to the painter. Heavy and monotonous.

102. "The Wye, from Whitchurch." George Sant. We think the cows too large for the middle distance. One of the animals is very ingeniously drawn—it may be taken either for a pig or a cow.

103. "Portrait of Charles Dickens." W. P. Frith, R.A.—This famous work, the property of John Forster, Esq., is too well known to need comment.

104. "Nestlings." G. B. O'Neil.—Children playing on a haycock. Natural and pretty. The property of C. Cartwright, Esq.

105. "The Princess (afterwards Queen) Elizabeth obliged to attend mass by her sister Mary." M. Stone.—The property of Frederick Elkington, Esq. The figures on the right are wonderfully well done, and the clever way in which the light is concentrated on the centre figure (the Princess Elizabeth), showing every feature and the wan expression of countenance, is very effective.

106. "The Old Porter's Daughter." The late A. Penley.—An idiotic-looking girl sitting before a door in company with a solitary flower-pot. The Old Porter's Daughter should have been behind the door.

107. "Gate Cragg, Borrowdale." Charles R. Aston.—The distance is well rendered.

108. "Churchyard at Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales." B. W. Leader.—Very ordinary work.

109. "Spring." C. T. Burt.—The colouring is bad. It has a washed-out appearance.

110. "Stone Quarry, Maxstoke." S. H. Baker.—Bits of rock nicely painted. The light and shade is good.

111. "Morning." James Danby.—An imitation of Turner with the usual result—neither one thing nor the other. We have the rising sun as white as the moon, and casting rays about like pieces of chalk.

112. "Japanese Chrysanthemums." Miss A. F. Mutrie.—Cleverly painted, and not overcoloured as is often the case in flower pictures.

113. "A Sally." J. Pettie, A.R.A.—A splendid work, and one that you can look at and admire for a long time. Full of vigour. The colouring very fine.

114. "Round the Fountains." D. W. Wyngfield.—Badly painted and unnatural. To our mind it is one of the worst and weakest things in the exhibition.

115. "Oliver Goldsmith teaching his Dog to sit up." T. B. Hall.—The subject is better than the work.

116. "Gone." C. Grierson.—Here we have the most unnatural brute of a dog we ever remember to have seen either on or off canvass. Beside this wretched dog is a girl looking out to sea at a boat that is carrying some one away—her lover probably. The object of the picture is evidently sorrow, which the painter has endeavoured to depict by showing us a girl's back.

117. "A Guernsey Lane." Arnold Helcke.—Rather nice, but too green.

118. "A Spanish Girl." W. M. Hay.—A splendid picture, beautifully drawn, well conceived, capital pose, and beautifully painted. The expression of countenance is very fine.

119. "A Homestead on the Avon." F. H. Henshaw. The painter has attempted prettiness and neglected nature.

120. "Evening Study, near Portmadoc." P. M. Feeney.—Not a picture to be exhibited. It is a mere study.

121. "Sheikh Abadah, on the Nile." E. Lear.—A peculiar scene. Not badly rendered.

122. "Humble Companions." L. C. Samson.—A picture worthy of a penny goody book for children.

123. "Fruit." George Close. We have not seen strawberries of this colour before. The rest is good.

124. "Snowden, from near Harlech." Henry Moore. Too rough.

125. "Approaching Footsteps." E. G. Hicks. Very nice indeed, but the painter, to have carried out the idea, might have drawn a more fascinating face.

126. "Oaks at Cranbourne Chase, Windsor." A. MacCullum.—The oak trunks are well studied; the light and shade and distance are finely and boldly rendered. The colours in the sunlight and the tree foliage are not quite so satisfactory.

127. "Entrance to Fowey Harbour, Cornwall." Henry K. Taylor.—There is not quite spirit enough in the picture. The water should be more natural. The ship and the boats are good, but are a little lacking in ease and softness.

128. "Snowdonia." C. Marshall.—There is some pleasing painting in the foreground, but generally the execution is not excellent.

129. "Portrait of Bessie Parkes Belloc." Adelaide Ballot.—In spite of a certain carelessness the portrait makes a very gratifying picture. There is real character in the face.

130. "Land at Last." A. C. Stanus. The figure of the boatman coming ashore through the surf with the little girl in his arms is a fine bit of painting, and the whole makes an admirable picture of its class. The face of the little girl is very happily given.

131. "Homeless." T. Faed, R.A. (the property of H. W. F. Bolckow, Esq., M.P.—The subject is simple; the effects are grand. There is a massiveness in the handling of the accessories. The ragged little crossing sweeper asleep, with his head resting against the Doric column, is a figure of life, and the expression on the sleeping face renders, with rare exactness, the line of the motto-stanza: "But he ne'er looks downhearted be it even or morn."

132. "Rose and Iris." Mary Vernon.—A clever little flower picture. The colours are laid on to exquisite effect.

133. "Far Away." W. Chapman.—The clever-looking, good, sensible girl, with her chin resting upon the back of her hand, thinking, is very nicely painted. There is nothing stiff or forced about the figure; it is simple and natural.

134. "Helmsley, Yorkshire." H. H. Lines.—Wants a little more of the *ars celare artem*.

135. "Telling Fortunes." C. W. H.—This is a fair study of an interior, but the figures too much resemble dolls.

136. "Morecambe Bay, from Bolton—Tide Out." William Hall.—This is not so good as the same painter's "On the Hills" (No 26). The scene is rather roughly rendered.

137. "Love me, love my Dog." C. Baxter.—A little boy with a spaniel. Very pretty, but rather too gay and sweet, and the lines set a little too hard.

138. Forest of Valdomello, Corsica." E. Lear. A large, deep purple scene. It is effective, and yet the trees have not quite enough life in them.

139. "Cornfield, Surrey." A. Bennett.—It makes an effective harvest landscape, but the features of the scene are settled down into a quietude greater than that of nature.

140. "Evening on the Teign, Chagford." W. Williams.—The scene is boldly conceived. It is a good study of colours not seen everywhere; but a little too purple and sombre.

141. "Fish Auction, Brixham, Devonshire." F. Chester.—Travellers in South Devon will recognise the scene in a moment without the aid of a catalogue. The life and incident are admirably caught, the grouping is very clever, and the figures are good.

142. "The Winter of Life." A. F. Patten.—The old man's head is not badly painted, but it is too ostentatiously a "study."

143. "On the Sands." C. T. Burt.—The water is a little too "papery," but the riding figures are well placed and natural.

144. "In St. Peter's Manor House, Bristol." Allen E. Everitt. This is a very agreeable and effective little cabinet picture. The old manorial chimney piece, carved ceiling, oak-panelled walls, and warm furniture are cleverly painted.

145. "Gleaners." E. J. Cobbett.—The faces of the children have not enough life in them.

146. "Fruit." George Lance. (The property of A. A. Hirst, Esq.)—Rich and handsome.

147. "A Lady's Companion." H. H. Couldery.—Gay and pretty but not real.

148. "Mill near Bethsada, North Wales."—W. H. Vernon. The old water-mill which, in various situations, artists are so fond of painting. It is very well done.

149. "On the Brent." W. H. Foster. The little picture is marked "sold." The water is better rendered than the land and distance.

150. "Portrait of Mrs. Markham" Sir Francis Grant, P.R.A. This is an unfavourable specimen of the President's style of portraiture. His faults of stiffness and formality are exaggerated, and the simplicity and domesticity which usually redeem his works are less recognisable

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The Vicar of the Archdiocese of Freiburg having proclaimed the Infallibility and other votes of Council, the Baden Government has prohibited these decrees from being carried out, so far as they are incompatible with the existing laws of the State.

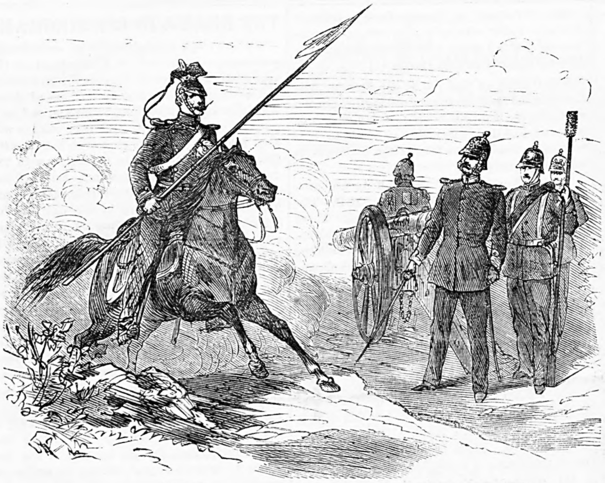
Funny cases sometimes turn up in a London police court. One day last week a couple of "Dromios," of the honourable order of mendicants, appeared before Mr. Newton, at the Worship-street court, to answer a charge of base conduct. It is not necessary to enter into the case, but only to notice the fact that the brothers have been in custody so often, and given the police so much trouble, that they are looked upon as the pest of the force, as their mutual resemblance, in voice, gesture, and eccentricities, renders the work of identification on these occasions very puzzling, and the case against one of them usually ends by the appearance of the other in court, and appeal being made to "Boby" as to whether he will swear to the culprit. With the whole court looking on, and such palpable evidence that they cannot be severed in aspect, the case falls to the ground.

THE DRAMA IN BIRMINGHAM.

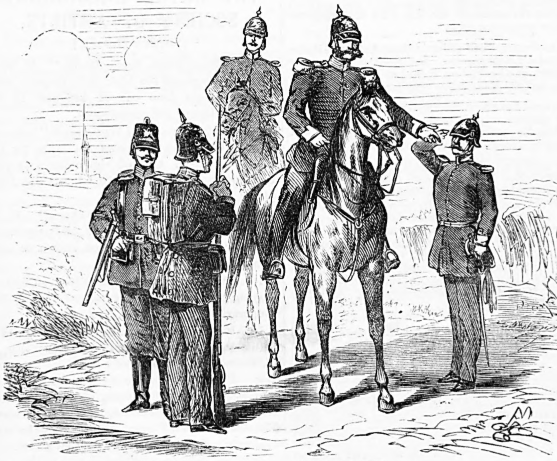
Without much intermission there are dramatic performances to be seen in Birmingham all the year round, but there are "seasons" nevertheless, and we are now in the first flush of one of them. Both theatres are open for a long term, and each promises a succession of attractions such as will keep Midland playgoers almost on a level with those of the metropolis in familiarity with the dramatic novelties and best stage talent of the day. Miss Bateman has been this week repeating her former successes in the character of "Leah." There is no falling off in her marvellous powers of passion and pathos. There is the same wild, rapt, almost mysterious devotion to the man she loves, in the earlier scenes; the same strange, immeasurable rage of despair at her desertion and the insult which she suffered in the wretched suspicions of her lover; the same almost unexampled pathos when at last one form of misery gives place to another and the yearning to forgive follows upon the greed of vengeance. Her postures are complete studies of the passions. The rhetoric of word and voice has its perfect configuration in the rhetoric of action. Many a clever actor, full of fervour and feeling and mimetic skill, finds that he has not in him the power of gesture strong enough to realize to the eyes of others the meaning to which he wants to give expression. Miss Bateman never falls below her own ideal of pourtrayal. The reach of arm, the purely physical vehemence, the movement of scorn, of hate, of agony—each is, so to speak, a full measure of the emotion which it embodies. There is a way of putting great actors and actresses upon their trial which is very common in these days: it is that of giving them a drama of inferior quality and construction to play in, and calling upon them as it were to rise superior to the faults of the piece and to immortalize its weakness by virtue of their own strength. This is a case in point. We need hardly say that "Leah" is a very poor work indeed. The faults of a vicious school of dramatic writing are exaggerated in it. With an ordinary actress in the leading part the piece would not pass muster before any audience accustomed to good plays. Miss Bateman steps into the drama and makes real what in other hands would be meretricious melo-drama and rant. And there are parts which all her peculiar genius will not redeem from mere littleness. She should get some of the dialogue reconstructed. In the awful scene between Leah and Rudolph after the marriage the explanation of the cause of estrangement is exceedingly feeble. She has, in the fervour of high feeling, to repeat words which are excessively commonplace, and one sees, for a moment, that the author had no foresight of the part being played to so lofty a strain. Yet, strangely enough, it is on this play that Miss Bateman's reputation is based. The fame of the drama and the woman are inseparable. When she ceases to perform the part, a new generation will wonder what she did to make the piece endurable. It will sink out of sight, and people will not understand wherein her excellence consisted. Miss Bateman is supported by a very good company, and the lead of the light comedy pieces, before and after the play, finds an excellent exponent in Mr. W. H. Vernon. "Leah" will run through this week and be repeated on Monday. On Tuesday Miss Bateman will appear as "Mary Warner."

Another class of entertainment has been provided this fortnight at the Prince of Wales Theatre. A strong taste has been created during the last few years for the romance of villany in the lowest of low life as it is in the metropolis. Under the dark arches of the bridges of the Thames has become quite a popular scene on the stage. "Clam" is the latest exponent of London beggary, starvation and crime according to the rules of the sensation drama. Wonderful things are done by "Clam" and by the thieves and rascals by whom she is surrounded. Murderers, taken red handed, burglars under lock and key in one scene, are prosperous members of society in the next. The entanglement is curious, the positions are striking, the energy with which the parts are sustained is remarkable, the applause is tremendous. "Clam" has been followed some evenings by "Lady Audley's Secret," wherein Lady Audley is much more terrific than she appears in Miss Braddon's novel. There are some good players in the company. Next Monday the programme changes. Mr. Eldred, a comedian, himself of unusual and versatile talent, brings a company to play Mr. Halliday's adaptation of Dickens's work, known on the boards as "Little "Em'ly" The piece has been remarkably successful at the Olympic.

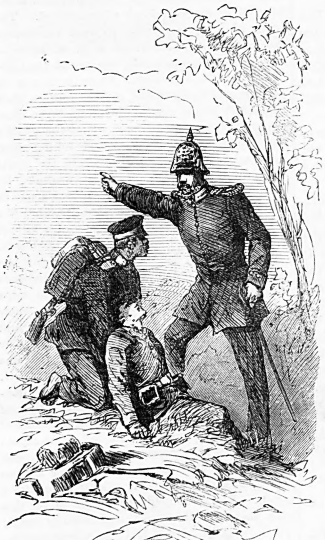
Door Letter Boxes.—The labours of the postmen are likely to be largely increased by the introduction of the halfpenny stamp on newspapers, and the halfpenny postal cards. Anticipating this, it seems an opportune time again to urge upon the public the propriety of having letter boxes placed in their doors, which will tend to economise the time of these, certainly not over-paid, public servants, and ensure a much more rapid distribution of letters and newspapers.



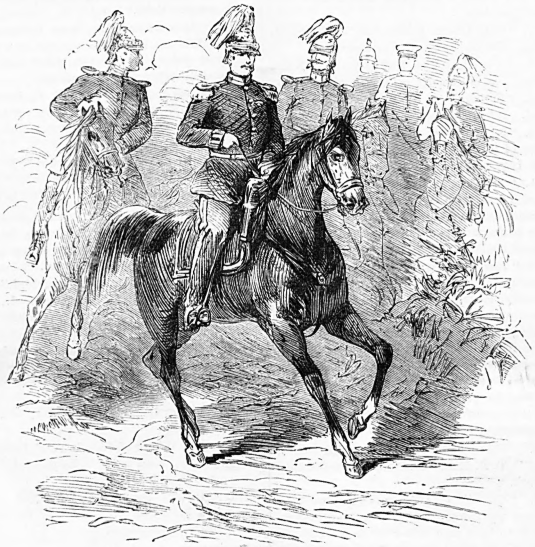
UHLAN. FOOT ARTILLERY.



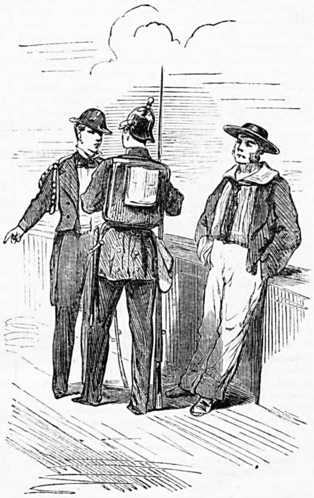
INFANTRY. LIGHT HORSE.



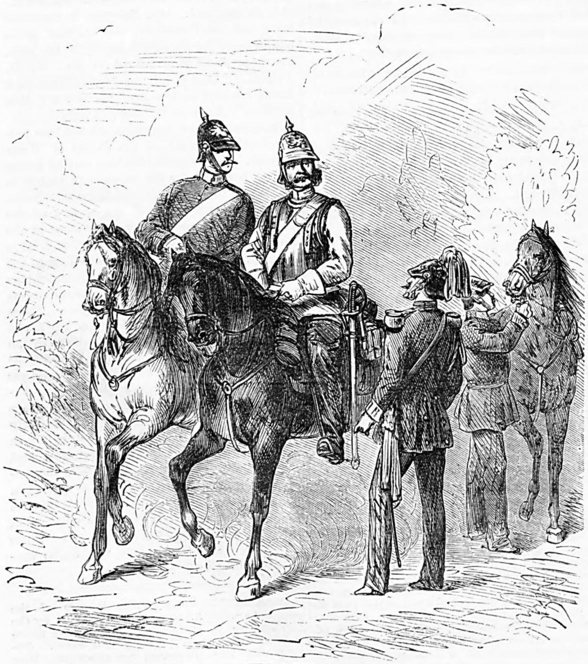
AMBULANCE ATTENDANT. PHYSICIAN.



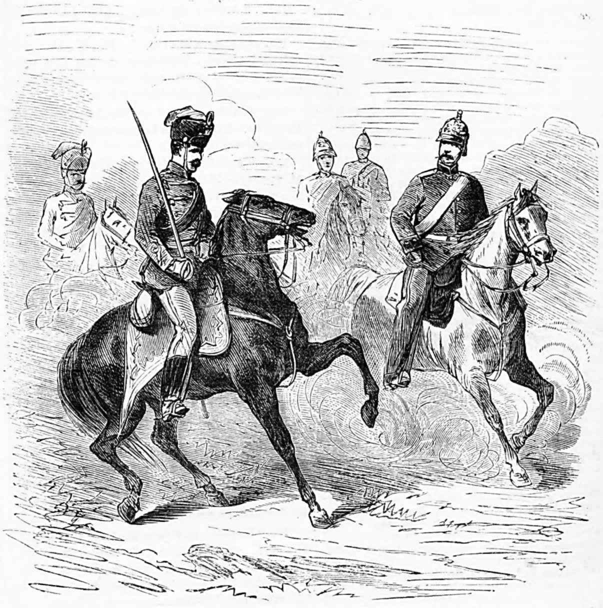
GENERAL STAFF.



MIDSHIPMAN. MARINE. SAILOR.

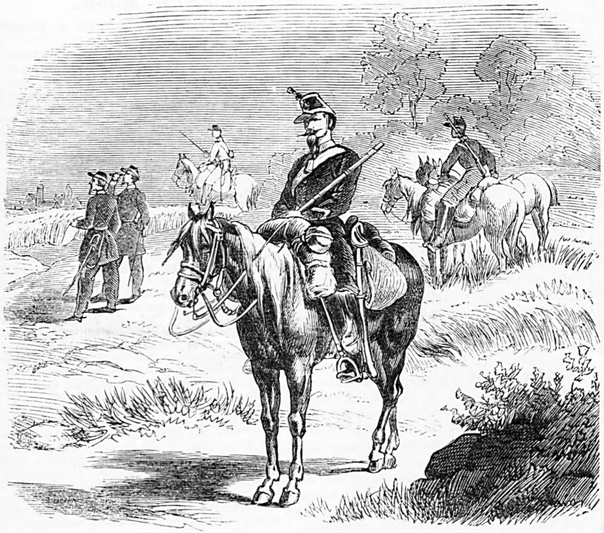


DRAGOON. CURIASSIER. FIELD ADJUTANT.

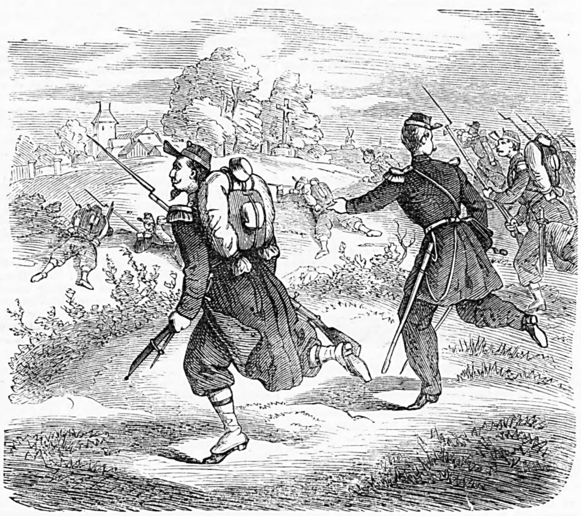


HUSSAR. HORSE ARTILLERY.

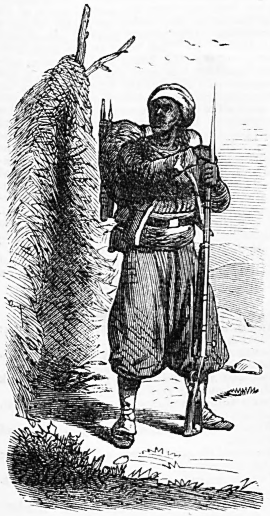
THE NORTH GERMAN ARMY.



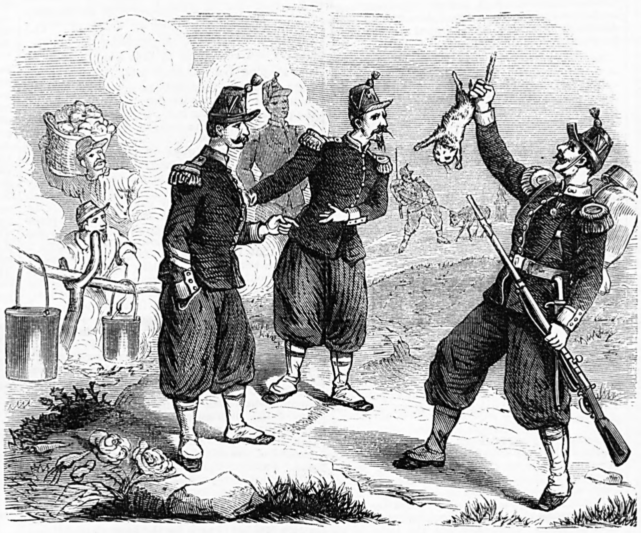
CHASSEURS D'AFRIQUE.



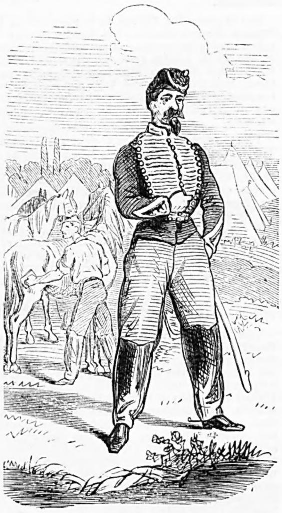
LIGHT INFANTRY.



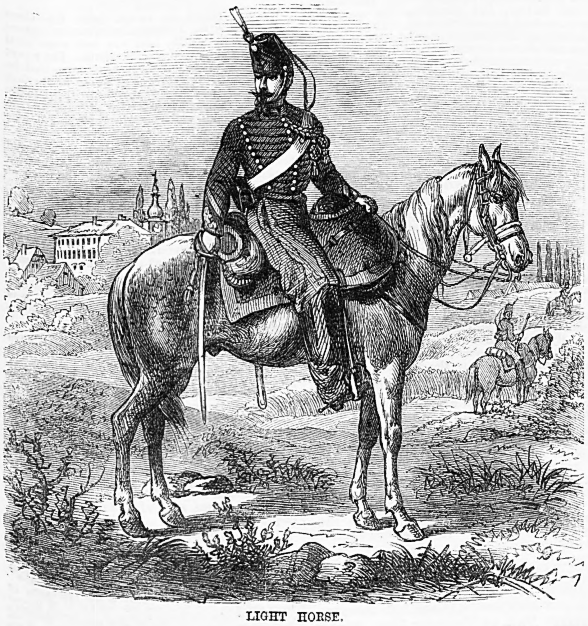
TURCO.



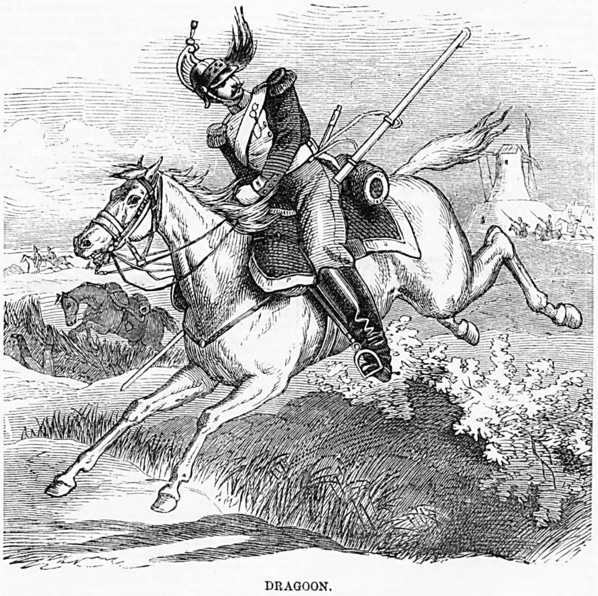
INFANTRY.



HUSSAR.



LIGHT HORSE.



DRAGOON.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Small Pox is on the increase in West Hartlepool.

The cable between Cuba and Jamaica has been successfully laid.

The new swimming bath at Preston is now completed, and will shortly be opened.

Heavy rains and floods have injured the cotton and rice crops in the Central Provinces of India.

The Empress Eugenie.—The *Broad Arrow* understands that Lord Ashburnham has placed his mansion in Sussex at the disposal of the Empress Eugenie.

A cowkeeper, at Isleworth, was fined forty shillings on Saturday by the Brentford magistrates, for not having given notice of an outbreak of the foot and mouth disease, which had occurred amongst his cattle.

The Duke of Manchester.—His Grace the Duke of Manchester has returned to Kimbolton Castle from the seat of war. His Grace who passed some weeks at the Prussian Head-Quarters, brought home with him several relics from the battlefield of Sedan.

Foot and Mouth Disease.—Three fresh outbreaks of this malady in the Dorchester division were reported on Saturday; in that division alone it prevails on nineteen farms. Thirty fresh cases are also reported from Yeovil. In other districts of Dorset the disease continues to spread.

A shocking murder is reported from the Black Country. John Farnall, the head engineer of a colliery company near Walsall, was deliberately shot by a young man employed under him in an altercation about the latter coming late to work. The unfortunate man died on Saturday evening.

Another shocking occurrence has taken place at Greenwich. A man living in a wretched apartment in that town was having his supper, when, enraged at the conduct of one of his children, he threw a knife at him. It missed the boy, but struck his mother, who died in the course of a couple of hours. The murderer has absconded.

Her Majesty the Queen, in a message to Sir Sydney Dacres, desires that measures may be taken to signify to the widows and the relatives of the whole of the crew who perished in the unfortunate Captain her deep sympathy with them, and the assurance that she feels acutely the misfortune which has at once deprived her of one of her finest ships and so many gallant seamen.

The Liverpool Statue of the Queen.—The fine equestrian statue of Her Majesty to be erected by the Corporation of Liverpool in front of St. George's Hall, as a companion to the statue of the late Prince Consort, is modelled by Thornycroft, has been executed in bronze by Messrs. Elkington, of Birmingham, and will cost over £5,000. The statue has been placed upon its pedestal, but the formal unveiling of it may be postponed for some time. It is not improbable that Her Majesty, on her return from Balmoral, will pass through Liverpool for the purpose of inspecting the Albert statue, which she has not yet seen, as well as that of herself, recently arrived from Birmingham.

The Late Tragedy at Bath.—Miss Kate Prankard, one of the victims of the late murderous assault by which her sister was killed by her father and she herself shot in the head, has sufficiently recovered to be able to leave the Bath United Hospital and take up her abode with her friends. It will be remembered that two bullets were supposed to have lodged in her head, above the palate, behind the nose, but the surgeons came to the resolution not to attempt any operation, hoping that the bullets would work their way out. They were right in their conjecture, as on Wednesday a bullet dislodged itself from the place in which it had been imbedded and fell into the young lady's mouth. She may now be said to be convalescent, as it is doubtful whether a second bullet is lodged in here.

Destructive Fire and Loss of Life.—A terrible conflagration has occurred in Dundee, which destroyed a large flax warehouse, the property of John Gordon and Co., spinners. It broke out on Saturday about midnight, and continued burning till the following evening. After the firemen arrived and were preparing to play on the buildings from a narrow lane at the back the east wall fell, burying them and others beneath it. Clouds of fire and smoke concealed the scene, and much water had to be poured on the burning material before assistance could be rendered. Fyffe, captain of the Fire Brigade, Police-sergeant Watson, and two labourers were taken out dead, and twenty others, firemen and workmen, seriously injured. The loss of property is estimated at £40,000. The owners are said to be fully insured.

Pawnbroking.—A statement recently made before a Parliamentary Committee, and relating to 30 pawnbroking businesses in Liverpool, shows that in the year 1869 702,657 pledges were taken in for the loan of sums not exceeding 2s. 6d.; 638,477 for 2s. 6d. and not exceeding 10s.; 74,530 for 10s. and not exceeding £10. The interest received amounted to £16,092, the ticket fees to £3,378. The gross profit, therefore, amounted to £19,470, being 17·3 per cent. on the amount of capital employed, which was £112,068. But the rent and other business expenses amounted to 11·1 per cent. on the capital; and deducting 5 per cent. for interest, the net profit was only 1·2 per cent. on the capital. The average net profit per pledge was not quite one farthing.

The Alexandra Palace and Park.—A third, and let us hope a more fortunate attempt, is about to be made to open the Alexandra Palace and Park to the people of North London. The effort has been organised by Mr. Francis Fuller, of Whitehall Gardens. It is proposed to form a company for this purpose on the Tontine principle, with a capital of £650,000, in fully paid-up shares, of 20s. each, with power to issue debentures bearing interest at 5 per cent. per annum, to the amount of £150,000 if necessary. The shareholders first registered up to the amount of £500,000 will be those alone entitled to the ownership of park, palace, and contents, which it is estimated will be worth, at the close of the Tontine in 1880, about one million and a half sterling.

A law has been passed abolishing capital punishment in Holland.

The British Association decided on Monday to hold their next year's meeting at Edinburgh, and the meeting of 1872 at Brighton.

The Prince and Princess Christian (Princess Helena) are expected to pay a visit to their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle, in the early part of next month.

The distinguished Hindoo religious reformer, the Baboo Keshub Chunder Sen, took his departure from our shores on Saturday afternoon in a Peninsular and Oriental steamer from Southampton.

Sir Titus Salt, of Saltaire, was presented on Saturday with a testimonial, consisting of pieces of plate, subscribed for by the children of the village connected with his great factory. The Rev. W. Cowan made the presentation, and Sir Titus accepted it in person.

The Baptists commenced their annual Conference at Cambridge on Monday. The Rev. C. Vince delivered an address to young men last evening. The chief features of the Conference will be a resolution on the "opening of the Universities to Dissenters," which is to be proposed by Mr. Aldis, the Senior Wrangler of 1861.

Fatal Accident at a Fire.—A fire broke out in Mr. Brandingham's shed, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, on Saturday night. A man, whose name is unknown, rushed into the house while the fire was raging, and in spite of the efforts of the police. At that instant the roof fell in, burying the man in the ruins. When got out soon after he was frightfully burnt, and died in a few minutes.

Here is a verbatim copy of a paper posted on the walls of the Exchange at Bristol:—"To marchants, traders, and uthers. A young man, about thirty yeeres of age, who understands the bakker bisness and husbandry, would be glad to go to A merry-ka or any outlandish places as hover seer and like of that. Enquire o' the 'Change keepeer. N.B. has no objecshun to go to Bottomley Bay as a Skool Measter, on condition his life can be inshured to the wild Savvages."

Accident to a Ballet Dancer.—An accident occurred on Monday night by which a dancer was severely burnt, at the Alexandra Music-hall, in Peter-street, Manchester. A new ballet had just been performed for the first time, and a set scene towards its close was being completed by raising Miss Lucelle, the leading *danseuse*, into view in the centre of the tableau, when the support on which she stood slightly lurched, and she fell forward upon a row of gas jets, by which her muslin dress was at once ignited, and she was severely burnt. She was conveyed home in a cab.

Father Ignatius.—The monastery founded by the Rev. Mr. Lyne (Father Ignatius) is now in course of erection, and the exterior walls are already raised many feet in height. It is situated in a most remote spot at the top of the secluded vale of Ewilas, among spurs of the Brecknockshire "Black Mountains," called the Batterell Hills, at a place called Capel-y-fin—the "Chapel of the Boundary" of three counties, Brecon, Hereford, and Monmouth. There is a small church at this place, and a road to it by way of the ruins of Llanthony Abbey. The site of the new monastery is four miles from Llanthony Abbey by a bad road, which stops at Capel-y-fin. The materials for the building—stone—are supplied on the spot.

Canadian Forest Fire.—The following instance will serve to show the rapid and terrible progress of the fires which have been raging in the neighbourhood of Ottawa. Mr. Moffat, of Central Hull, was standing outside his house on the night of 17th of August, when he suddenly saw fire spring up in the pine and cedar woods, about two miles from his place. It was not like the light of an ordinary fire, but a sudden blaze of lambent flames, accompanied by a shower of sparks from the dry, crisp branches of the resinous pine and cedar trees. In less than 15 minutes it had traversed the intervening space and was at his very doors. With some difficulty he managed to rescue his children and to drag them through the clouds of blinding smoke to a large potato patch at a short distance from his house. Here he and the members of his family threw themselves prostrate between the trenches while the whirlwind of flame passed by, finding no fuel in the potato field. The ashes fell thickly upon them, and the hot breath of the fire scorched them severely, but, like travellers in the desert when the sirocco is near, they remained with their faces to the ground until the fire had passed by. Then they rose and looked round to find their home and all it contained, the result of many years' savings, levelled to the ground and swept away. Nor was this by any means a singular case.

The Science Schools.—The number of persons receiving instruction in science applicable to industry, under the auspices of the department, has increased from 15,010 in 1868 to 21,500 in 1869. The number of individuals instructed in art has increased from 123,562 in 1868 to 157,198 in 1869, or at rate of 27 per cent., the increase in the science schools being upwards of 43 per cent. The Royal School of Mines numbers only 17 regular and 93 occasional students; the Royal College of Chemistry, 136 students; the Royal School of Naval Architecture, 40; and the Metallurgical Laboratory, 35. The evening lectures have been attended by 1,617 artisans and school teachers, and 253 science teachers attended the special course of lectures provided for their instruction. There have been 32 students at the Royal College of Science in Ireland, and 5,773 persons have attended the various courses of lectures delivered in connexion with the department in Dublin. The attendance at the evening popular lectures delivered in the Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art during the Session 1868-9 was 1,386. Thus the total number of persons who have received instruction as students, or as attendants upon lectures in connexion with the Science and Art Department in 1869, is upwards of 187,000—a total exceeding that of the preceeding year by 41,300, or 28 per cent. The increase in 1868 over 1867 was about 18 per cent., so that the rate of progressive increase, as compared with the former year, shows an acceleration of more than 30 per cent.

LITERATURE.

Christian Work on the Battle Field. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

In some respects this is a remarkable work. We promise so much because at the first blush secular readers, looking at the title page and opening the book at random, may set it down as simply one of a host of religious publications intended to supply the craving for literary food among religious readers. It is a religious book for religious readers, but it is not one of the host, and it will secure the attention of non-religious readers when once they know how much there is in it not of the common sort. We are not now speaking of the peculiar opportuneness of its publication in the days of a great war, but of the singularly bold and unconventional manner in which the editor propounds and enforces his convictions with respect to the influence of modern Christianity on the war feeling, and on the principles and modes of conducting war. The writer, who is a great theoriser, has very decided notions about the influence of Christianity in alleviating the horrors of war, and he insists on them at great length. It must be understood that the book is all about the Great American War of Secession and the work of the United States "Christian Commission" during that struggle, and what rather strikes the reader at the outset is the unqualified approval of that war evinced by the author in the midst of his fervent Christian argument. Indeed, he looks upon that terrible civil conflict as a sort of crusade upon which the soldiers (we presume those of the North only) went forth as, in some sort, champions of the Gospel. The manner in which he takes that view for granted startles the English reader sometimes. Thus he talks of "The agency of Christianity in preparing the circumstances and conditions of that war, in starting and shaping the questions which rendered the war possible and inevitable, in training the nation to an appreciation of its duty, and in supplying the power to perform it." It is plain, therefore, that according to this essayist the war was a sort of Christian movement, urging the nation to go to battle, it being always understood that by the "nation" the writer means the Northern States. He says again:—"The agency of Christianity is signally manifest in preparing the nation for war, and the war for the nation," &c. In this respect the work is a remarkable proof of the political colouring of religion in the United States. In this country there exists a notion that the people who fought on the side of secession were also a Christian people, and, perhaps, about as good Christians as those of the North, and that as for the influence of Christianity on the battle field, it was shown no less on the one side than on the other. The book opens with a long and exceedingly interesting introductory historical essay, "On the influence of Christianity in alleviating the horrors of war," showing how, in the terrible story of battles, running down the ages, this influence has been at work, till we arrive at the United States' "Christian Commission," and, we might add, the proceedings of the International Society for the aiding the Sick and Wounded in War, now in full operation in Europe. The second chapter gives an account of the origin of the "Christian Commission," and here again the writer's peculiar notion of the religious spirit and purpose of the war comes the front, for he contends that the "religious awakening" of 1857—8, by which we understand the "revival," was the "preparation of the nation and the church for the hour of trial," and he gives a brief history of the "revival." Then follows the history of the labours of that Commission, compiled from the annals of the Society, and occupying the remaining three hundred pages of the work. The following chapters are admirably compiled. They tell of what was done in that great war to alleviate the bodily anguish of the sufferers and to imbue the soldiers, in the field and in the hospitals, with a sense of religion. Great good was done, and the "Christian work on the Battle Field" is a very valuable addition to the history of the American War of Secession. At the season through which we are passing it must be read with great interest in this country.

The Holy Bible, with References and Concordance, Illustrated. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

We have received an early copy of the re-issue of Cassell's illustrated annotated Bible. It is printed on toned paper, in large type, and more than half the space is occupied by the engravings, illuminations, fancy initials, marginal references, and chronology, and foot-notes. As companion illustrations to that of the creation of the world on the first page are given, among the notes on the second page, first, a picture of Egyptian symbols of the heavens and the earth, and secondly, the Hindoo representation of the universe. The first is a medley of birds and fishes and curious creatures, in the midst of which are a couple of figures, that may be supposed to represent the first man and the first woman; the second shows the universe supported on elephants, which take their stand on the back of a huge tortoise, who is held in his place by the coils of a serpent, the emblem of eternity, encircling the universe and its supporters, and holding the tip of its tail in its mouth. Conspicuous among the larger engravings of this number is that representing the entering into the ark. With this first part of the Family Bible is given away a large engraving from Smethains's painting: "The Hymn of the Lord's Supper," a well executed picture.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Deaf and Dumb. Dr. Scott.

Imaginary Conversations. Mr. Scroxton.

Handy Book on Property Law. Lord St. Leonards.

Bankruptcy Act, 1869. J. T. Treherne.

NEW MUSIC.

"Watch by the Rhine." W. S. Rockstro. London: Cocks and Co.

This arrangement of "Die Wacht am Rhein," the favourite of Prussian national songs, is a clever piece of work, but the air is almost lost in the variations. A few words in explanation of the origin of "The Watch by the Rhine" will not, we think, be out of place. For a long time it was doubtful who was the author of the words. The distinction, however, is now awarded to one Max Schneckenburger, a native of Molheim, in Wurtemberg. As a boy he wrote verses and printed them; but as a man he regretted, it is said, the time he had spent in poetic labours. He abandoned literature, and founded ironworks at Burgdorf, near Berne. He died in 1849, at the age of thirty, without having been honoured with any of the fame that has since been attached to his name. Perhaps his dearest remembrance connected with "Die Wacht am Rhein," was the fact that it was sent as a gift to his betrothed. He certainly thought less of it than of carrying on his ironworks, and getting together a little library of his own. But "Die Wacht am Rhein" still exists, and the library also; and as for the name, Max Schneckenburger, it will remain as long as the Prussian nation. Wilhelm, however, the composer, is known apart from the celebrated song. His father was the organist of Schmalkaden in Thuringia, and put his son early to musical studies. Wilhelm became a pupil of Louis Spohr, Aloys, Schmidt, and André of Offenbach. He has been a prolific writer, and has given many pieces to the world that have made their mark; but when patriotism is the theme then he shines brightest. Unlike Schneckenburger, Wilhelm lives to receive the honours heaped on him by his country. The widow of Schneckenburger is still alive; and the eldest son carries a rifle in the Wurtemberg contingent.

"La Marseillaise." G. W. West.—London: Cocks and Co.

All the pieces arranged by G. W. West that we have heard are good; but the one under notice is decidedly amongst his best efforts. It is full of vigour, and will rouse the martial spirit of an Englishman or any other man, let alone a Frenchman. After twenty years of proscription "La Marseillaise" has come to the front with more power over the hearts of Frenchmen, perhaps, than ever. A man was in danger a few weeks ago who hummed the tune—now it is the national song throughout the length and breadth of what a few weeks ago was the Empire. This revolutionary hymn does not only call men to arms, but gives them the spirit wherewith to use them. It will make cowards brave, and the timid long to be in fight. The story of its composition by Rouget de Lisle, in the now beleagured Strasburg, is too well known to be repeated; but an attempt has been made by a newspaper correspondent to give the tune a German origin. The correspondent in question states that the "Marseillaise" is "German holy music found in an old church of the German village, Holyheim." There is no reason given for this assertion, and of course no one will believe it to be anything but a hoax.

NEW MUSIC RECEIVED.

"Angel of Peace." Anne Fricker. London: Cocks and Co.

"Echoes from the Highlands." W. S. Rockstro. London: Cocks and Co.

"The Joy that knows no Sorrow." Frank Mori. London: Duff and Stewart.

"She's Good as She's Fair." Frank Mori. London: Duff and Stewart.

"Weary." E. L. Hine. London: Duff and Stewart.

"Diamond Eyes." R. D'Oyley Carte. London: Duff and Stewart.

"The Murmuring Stream." C. J. Hargitt. London: Duff and Stewart.

"God is Love." Sucht Champion. London: Duff and Stewart.

"When Friends are Met." J. B. Neiklot. London: S. Clarke.

We are happy to record (says the *Court Journal*) that Mr. J. Bright continues to improve *immensely* in health, and has had some good sport, having hooked several salmon. The report is, however, premature by a year or so that he will return to his duties, as there are in the first place clearly no duties to perform. It is equally erroneous that he has taken the principal part in the *Idle 'Prentice* in an amateur theatrical performance.

A somewhat singular Fenian outrage occurred near Rochdale a few days ago. Two leading working men, one of Rochdale and the other of Manchester, who formerly belonged to the Fenian movement, had given it up, and were earnest and incessant in trying to persuade others to follow their example. The Fenian leaders invited them to a conference at Bolton, and the discussion at a public-house being interrupted, it was proposed to adjourn to Lyke, a suburban village. On their way an ambuscade of disguised men rushed out upon them; one, called O'Shee, took to his heels and escaped, but the other, whose name is Roach, was severely beaten and left for dead. The police are on the track of the ruffians.

The Davenport Brothers, who assume to have spiritual aid in giving their exhibitions, were lately detected in their tricks and publicly exposed at Bay City, Michigan. The brothers claim that the hands that present themselves from the orifice are spiritual, and not flesh and blood. When the "spiritual hand" made its appearance a gentleman on the platform seized it and besmeared it with printer's ink, which nothing short of oil of some kind can remove. When the brothers came forth into the light they were marked men, the printer's ink still remaining upon their hands. They were received with hisses and groans, after which the large audience dispersed.

Rosseter's Hair Restorer is the only preparation which can be confidently relied upon for restoring grey hair to its original colour. It assists nature in supplying the colouring properties which may have become deficient through age or disease. Price 3s. 6d. per bottle. [628

One Bottle Did It. That is the expression of many who have had their grey hair restored to its natural colour, after using one bottle of Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer. It is not a dye, it can do no harm. Every one who has used this preparation speaks loud in its praise. If you wish to restore your hair as in youth, and retain it through life, without delay procure this preparation. Sold by all Chemists. Depot, 266, High Holborn, London, [32

GOSSIP.

The Cologne Theatre is to be re-built.

The Galleries of the Louvre are closed for the present.

The grand new opera at Vienna is spoken of as a partial failure.

A "History of Cuba" is announced from the pen of Senor Pezeula.

Herr Wagner was married on the 20th of last month to Madame C. von Bulow.

M. Hervé has been in London, negotiating, we believe, for one of the West-End theatres.

The Charing-cross Theatre will shortly re-open under the management of Mr. Charles H. Ross.

The Bonn Beethoven Festival is fixed to take place in the spring of 1871, should there be peace.

The Council of the Royal Academy have resolved on placing a bust of the late Mr. Maclise in their hall.

Miss Arabella Goddard has been lately performing at Boulogne-sur-Mer for the benefit of wounded soldiers.

The author of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" has a new book in the press, called "Through the Looking Glass."

Schott, of Mayence, is about to publish a pianoforte score of Wagner's "Rheingold" and "Walkyrie," arranged for two performers.

Mr. Sothern, after his autumnal provincial tour, will commence a six months' engagement at the Haymarket on the 23rd of next January.

A translation of Mr. Disraeli's "Lothair," in parts, is passing through the press in Holland. The translator is Mr. A. H. Verster.

Madame de Gasparin has published a vigorous and eloquent denunciation of war, in the form of a poem, called "La Chanson des Vautours."

Il Baretti, a newspaper published at Turin, has announced that it will give to the public a number of hitherto unpublished letters of Ugo Foscolo.

The Christmas piece at the Strand Theatre will be a burlesque on "Twixt Axe and Crown," by Mr. Strachan.

"Starring" in the provinces must be very hard work. Mr. J. L. Toole has visited twenty-one towns in a professional tour of a month.

"Ozokerit" is a new description of candle, which will be introduced by Field and Co. They have already spent £25,000 in advertising it.

The *Musical Standard* says that the only son of Gustave Schmidt, Chapelmaster of Leipsic, has been killed before the ramparts of Metz.

Barry Sullivan has just completed a twelve nights' engagement at the Theatre Royal, Cork, his native place. His reception has been most enthusiastic.

Mdlle. Adelina Patti has returned to this country; she will probably appear in a series of concerts in the large provincial towns during the autumn.

A "Life of Napoleon III.," from his birth to his present captivity, is announced for issue, as a supplementary number with *Cassell's Magazine* for October'

Mr. Howard Glover, formerly of the *Morning Post*, and well known in London musical and literary circles, is about to publish his "Recollections," or "Twenty Years on the London Press."

Sir Edwin Landseer and M. Dyckmans have been nominated effective members of the Antwerp Royal Academy of the Fine Arts, in the place of Mr. Overbeck and the late Baron Leys.

It is expected that Cherubini's *Les Deux Journées* will shortly be produced in an English dress, at the Gaiety Theatre, with Mr. Santley in the character of the Water-Carrier.

Professor Ansted, the Countess Bothemer, Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, and Mr. Horne will contribute to the forthcoming numbers of the *Gentleman's Magazine*.

It is stated that Mr. James Grant, editor of the *Morning Advertiser*, owing to a difference with the committee of management, has tendered his resignation, which has been accepted.

Mr. Best, of Liverpool, has been giving a selection from Benedict's new oratorio, "St. Peter," at one of his organ recitals; the impression made by the selected items being highly favourable to the composer.

The Germans have sent Dr. Harless, the keeper of the State Archives at Düsseldorf, and an assistant, to collect all documents relating to German cities that are to be found in the archives of Alsace and Lorraine.

A critic in the *Musical Standard*, commenting on a new ballad, of which the words are by "G.F.H.," music by "J.F.O.," dedicated to "H.E.R.," says:—Following the predilection of the author for capital letters, our review need simply be N.O.—G.O.!

A telegram from New York states that Mdlle. Nilsson's first concert in the United States, given on Monday evening last, proved a great success. The receipts amounted to 4,800 dollars, which, at the present price of gold, is equivalent to about £900.

For the first time in Paris since theatres were permanently established, there has been a complete cessation of dramatic performances. With the end of theatrical performances comes of course a stoppage of the journals wholly, or in a great measure, devoted to the drama.

Mr. Walter Montgomery will reach England from New York, after his successful tour "Around the Universe," at the end of this month. He will give a series of performances in this country in October and November. He is announced to re-appear on the New York boards on the first of December.

Mr. Edward Legge, lately sub-editor of the *Illustrated Midland News*, was at the battle of Sedan. He has not been heard of since, but is believed to be at the Prussian head-quarters. We have received no letter from our own correspondent for three weeks.

Mr. Buckstone and the members of the Haymarket company had a narrow escape a few days since whilst travelling by mail train from Glasgow to Manchester. Near to Preston the mail came into collision with the tail end of the luggage train that had not been shunted in time. The whole of the steps and footboards were torn off the passenger train, and the carriage in which the Haymarket company travelled was so injured that at Preston they had to be transferred to another.

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.—New Articles used by everyone. Great demand. £3 weekly earned. No risk. Great inducements to all having spare time. B. N. Bacon and Co., 127, Strand, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—More precious than Gold.—Diarrhœa, dysentery, and cholera are, through the summer's heat, carrying off the young as the winter's cold destroyed the aged. In the most acute cases, where internal medicines cannot be retained, the greatest relief will immediately result from rubbing Holloway's soothing Ointment over the abdomen. The friction should be frequent and brisk, to insure the free penetration of the Unguent. This will calm the excited peristaltic action, and soothe the pain. Both vomiting and griping yield to it; when fruits or vegetables have originated the malady it is proper to cleanse the bowels by a moderate dose of Holloway's Pills before using the Ointment. [42

OUR DUTY AS NEUTRALS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his speech on the occasion of being presented with the freedom of Elgin, gave the following lucid exposition of England's duty as a neutral Power in the present war:—"There are three kinds of interposition. The first is arbitration, another is intervention, and the third mediation; and they rumble these things up in a manner that must be my excuse if I endeavour to define these three terms strictly, and to show exactly what meaning I attach to them. And first, arbitration means, when a person takes upon himself to judge between two competitors at their request, and as no request has been made to us by the two competitors, arbitration is totally out of the question, and I may dismiss it. Intervention by a neutral means that the neutral casts aside the character of neutrality, and goes in for one side or the other. Now we have not the slightest intention, and I am sure that you do not wish us to have any intention, of doing so. The quarrel was none of our raising. On the contrary we have done everything we could to prevent it, and we are not going, if any power can keep us out of it, to be drawn into it. The third class of interposition is that of mediation, and mediation, I take it, means not that you exactly wait to be asked, but that you give good advice and counsel, and persuade and entreat people to be reasonable, to listen to good advice, and to abstain from hostilities. Now, gentlemen, that also requires consideration. As long as the sword has not been drawn, while the matter is still in the stage of quarrel and discussion, and has not reached the point of hostilities, nothing can be more becoming a great power like England than even to be lavish in mediation at the risk of receiving, as we have received, some mortifying repulses. She cannot go too far in exhausting all the resources which are at her command in order to bring the two parties together to prevent the effusion of blood. She can do this because the question then at issue is a question of the rights of parties, of which every man is a poor judge for himself, but which just and wise men are always ready to leave to the adjustment of other people if they are sincere in the belief that they are right. In that kind of mediation we have been not in any way wanting. We exhausted all the resources of diplomacy in endeavouring to prevent a collision between France and Prussia, and we exhausted them in vain; but when you come to speak of mediation after the sword has been drawn you get at a totally different set of considerations. It is no longer a question of the rights of parties, but the question of relative power. The sword is an evil mediator, but it does its work decisively and authoritatively, and if after the parties have called the sword in aid of their own affairs and dislike their discussion by other people, we were to begin to mediate, then we should be wearing our neutrality exceedingly thin, and be almost casting it aside. Altogether so long as it is a question of right we may claim to be heard, but when two nations have been conflicting with each other for some time, they know much better than anybody else can know what there own strength is, and what the strength of their antagonist is, and they know also what they require for security, and what they think it their interest to claim; and if that be the case, and the third nation tries to interpose between them, whatever advice it gives, it must be taking part either with the one party or the other, and thus would not bear the part of neutral. For instance, were we to go to Prussia and advise her to be content with less terms than she demands, we actually should be taking the part of France against Prussia, and would no longer be a neutral, and would be throwing our moral weight in the scale of France against Prussia. If, on the other hand, we were to go to France and advise her to take terms which she did not consider consistent with her dignity, we would be playing the game of Prussia, and taking part against France. That is exactly what, in my judgment, we ought to avoid in the supposition with which I started—that we are bound, on being an actual, a fair, and an absolute neutral. There is another reason why, in my judgment, we ought at the present time to abstain from interference and from mediation, and that is this. It is impossible to do so without leaving a lasting wound behind. For instance, supposing we were to recommend Prussia to do something less than she believes necessary for her to do, it would always rankle in the mind of Prussia that she felt herself compelled to listen to our advice—it would always rankle in the minds of Prussian statesmen that we had spoiled her game in the moment of success, and it would be a standing grievance against us for ever. If, on the other hand we were to advise France to take terms from Prussia, supposing she demands a cession of territory, would it be wise in our statesman to associate England with what they regard as miserable and humiliating to submit to? And they would at once say that England had a hand in the matter, and that she put Prussia upon France to compel her to submit to that which she ought not to have done."

A curious mistake occurred in the report of a speech of one of the members for Oxfordshire the other day, as that speech was given in some of the morning papers. In alluding to the reduction of our war forces, the speaker said—"The Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to be blamed." The report made him say—"The Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to be *hanged!*" This was about the first piece of reading which met the eye of Mr. Lowe on his return from his holiday. With a victim of one of the French revolutions he might have exclaimed, "What! are they about to begin with me?"

THE TERRIBLE UHLAN.

A correspondent gives the following description of the Uhlan—the dread of the French peasantry. A Uhlan is about the best mounted cavalry man in the service, the average weight of a man with his accoutrements is about 160lb. German. The horse appointments are very similar to those of our own cavalry—*i. e.* they have the ordinary cavalry saddle and bridle. But the manner of packing away a Uhlan's kit is different. First of all, they have but one wallet, which holds the pistol; the other is an ordinary leather bag, which looks like a wallet; in this they stow away a pair of boots, brushes, &c., for cleaning their accoutrements. Below the saddle there is an ordinary saddle cloth. Then across the saddle—on which the man sits—is his whole kit, which consists of one pair of canvas trousers, loose canvas jacket, and two pair of stockings, packed carefully away in a bag resembling a valise. The cloak—no cape—is rolled up and placed at the back of the saddle. They carry two corn sacks, containing 6lb. of corn in each, on either side of the cloak, and a mess tin encased in leather, strapped on to the back of the saddle. Over all this comes the shabraque. The lance is a clumsy-looking weapon, weighing 4½lbs. The man's dress is similar to our Lancers, with the exception of the overalls, ours having leather, the Prussians wearing boots. They seem never *in* nor *out* of the way. If they crowd a road, they clear it too. They come in from the outposts thirty miles ahead, and bring information which is news to all. Some, however, do not come in—for I am sorry to say the French peasantry have taken up arms in reply to the levy *en masse*, and fire on the Prussian officers and outposts recklessly at night. Depend upon it this will lead to terrible reprisals, and you must not be shocked if you hear of some great vengeance being wreaked on French villages. The Prussians cannot for their own safety allow their solitary guards in charge of food waggons to be "potted at" in this cowardly manner. People, they say, may take up arms in defence of their country, but when they take to firing on solitary stragglers who in the field they would not face, it becomes a guerilla warfare in which the French will most assuredly get the worst.

DOUAY.

UPON the field of Weissenburg
  Blaz'd War's fierce lurid light,
And Gallia strove with Germany,
  In hot and bloody fight.

The conflict raged, the bullets flew—
  Stormed War's tremendous hail—
And brave hearts stand a moment still,
  Bronzed cheeks a moment pale.

And heart and brain the murderous balls,
  Like swift-wing'd lightning, seek;
The hates of races cry aloud,
  And deadly vengeance wreak.

Again, and yet again they charge,
  Those Gauls, so proud in strife;
Again, and yet again, the Pruss
  From France wrests many a life.

And back, back, back, the Frenchmen fall,
  The field is thick with dead,
But few remain of that brave band
  By noble Douay led.

The day is lost; low on the plain
  The Gallic eagle lies;
Shall Douay yield him to the foe?
  Ah, no! "The French Guard dies!"

The veteran from his horse dismounts,
  And pats that faithful neck,
All proudly arch'd, though stain'd with blood
  Which battle's white foams fleck.

"Thou shalt not be my conqueror's slave,"
  Stout Douay cries, and fires;
His horse, his friend, falls at his feet;
  One look! one sigh! expires.

Around him lie his comrades dead
  In thousands, swiftly slain;
His friends, his men, his hopes, his pride,
  Lie prostrate on the plain.

And Douay turns him to the foe,
  Walks o'er those lifeless clods,
His gray hair waving in the wind,
  His bare head like a god's!

With front erect, with tranquil eye,
  He marches to his fate;
With lofty courage, hero soul,
  Strides up to Death's red gate!

A dozen bullets drink his blood;
  He falls, sublimely falls!
And vainly now that honored name
  His mourning country calls.

Oh, ne'er in life proud Gallia's call
  Unheeding did he hear,
E'en now to France he thrilling speaks,
  Though dumb on Glory's bier.

And in pure gold, stout Douay's name,
  Chivalric Gauls, inscribe,
For Frenchmen's hearts shall throb whene'er
  His death ye shall describe.

ARTHUR MATTHISON.

"Three years ago this autumn I had a severe attack of the gout to which I had been subject for 22 years. After being confined to my room, under treatment, two weeks, I was induced to try Perry Davis's Pain Killer, and in a little more than a week was able to be at business. Two years before I had a similar attack, which, with the best medical advice I could get, confined me to my house more than four months.—Yours, &c., Thomas Perry, Nov. 10, 1868.—To Perry Davis & Sons, Red Lion Sq., London."

NEW PATENTS.

(Contributed by Messrs. Payne and Talbot, 1, Bennett's-hill, and 56, Ann-street, Birmingham.)

A new or improved apparatus applicable to barrels, casks, or vessels for the preservation of fermented liquors. A. B. Reis, Westminster.

Improvements in mills for crushing and grinding. H. Jackson, Leeds, Yorkshire. (Partly a communication from C. and J. Ross, New York, U.S.)

Improvements in centre valves for gas purifers and other apparatus. C. C. and W. T. Walker, Donnington, Shropshire.

Improvements in telegraphic apparatus. M. Henry, London. (A communication from the Société Digney, Frères, St. Compagnie, Paris.)

Improvements in wheels for carriages, wagons, carts. and other vehicles. L. Stewart, Edinburgh, Midlothian, N.B.

Improved machinery for pointing and finishing nails. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from S. Schlesinger, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.)

Improvements in machinery for dressing flax, hemp, and other analogous materials. D. Brown, Belfast, Ireland.

Improvements in the manufacture of peat charcoal, L. A. Ritterbandt, London. (Partly a communication from J. B. Bassedoit, Spain.)

Improvements in the manufacture of artificial stone, and in articles composed thereof. W. B. Adamson, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in evaporating and boiling or concentrating liquids, and in apparatus employed therein. J. H. Johnson, London. (A communication from J. F. Caie, Paris.)

Certain improvements in canopies. H. A. Bonneville, London. (A communication from A. M. Rodgers, New York, U.S.)

Improved lubricating packing for railway carriage journals. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from W. H. Jewell, New York, U.S.)

Improvements in the preparation and treatment of wood to preserve the same from decay. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from A. B. Tripler, New Orleans, Louisianna, U.S.)

(*Patents upon which the* £50 *Stamp Duty has been paid*).

A new process for producing hydrogen. C. E. Brooman, London. (A communication from C. M. T. du Mofay and C. R. Marechal, Metz, France.)

Improvements in apparatus for testing telegraph conductor, part of the invention being applicable to other purposes. F. H. Varley, London.

Improvements in decorticating and cleaning cereals, and in the machinery or apparatus employed therefor. W. W. Gibson, Edinburgh, Midlothian, N.B.

Improvements in lucifer matches or tapers, and in the apparatus for holding and igniting the same. B. and A. B. Blackburn, London.

Improvements in apparatus for finishing parts of locomotive wheels. J. Reid, Glasgow, Lanarkshire, N.B.

Improvements in or applicable to sewing machines. G. F. Bradbury and T. Chadwick, Oldham, Lancashire.

Improvements in the manufacture of iron. J. G. Williams, Bayswater, Middlesex.

Improvements in whips and whip holders. W. E. Newton, London. (A communication from J. Gibson, jun., New York, U.S.)

Improvements in the production of light and heat for signalling and other purposes. P. H. Colomb, Harrow, Lancashire, and F. J. Bolton, Rochester, Kent.

Improvements in apparatus to be used for boiling eggs and for like purposes. J. Dimock, London.

Improvements in centrifugal machines for separating liquid from solid matters. W. R. Lake, London. (A communication from D. M. Weston, Boston, Massachusett, U.S.)

BEARS IN CANADA.—Two bears, recently killed in the neighbourhood, were offered for sale, with the skins on, in the market at Ottawa. Ten dollars apiece was the price obtained.

Signor Frapolli, Grand Master of the Italian Freemasons, has issued an edict in which he signifies the intention of "The Grand Orient" to remove from Florence to Rome "the defiitive capital of the nation."

A recent number of the *Moscow Gazette*, which is favourable to France in the present war, attempted in a recent number to prove that it was not France that originated the Crimean war, but England, "which has always been the cause of all Russia's misfortunes, and whose interests are in collision with those of Russia at all points."

By a telegram from Hong-Kong, dated the 1st inst., we learn that the feeling against foreigners throughout China is increasing, and that a general rising against them is expected. The French Minister had declared that he would haul down his flag if the heads of the Mandarins concerned in the Tien-tsin massacre were not delivered by the 31st August.

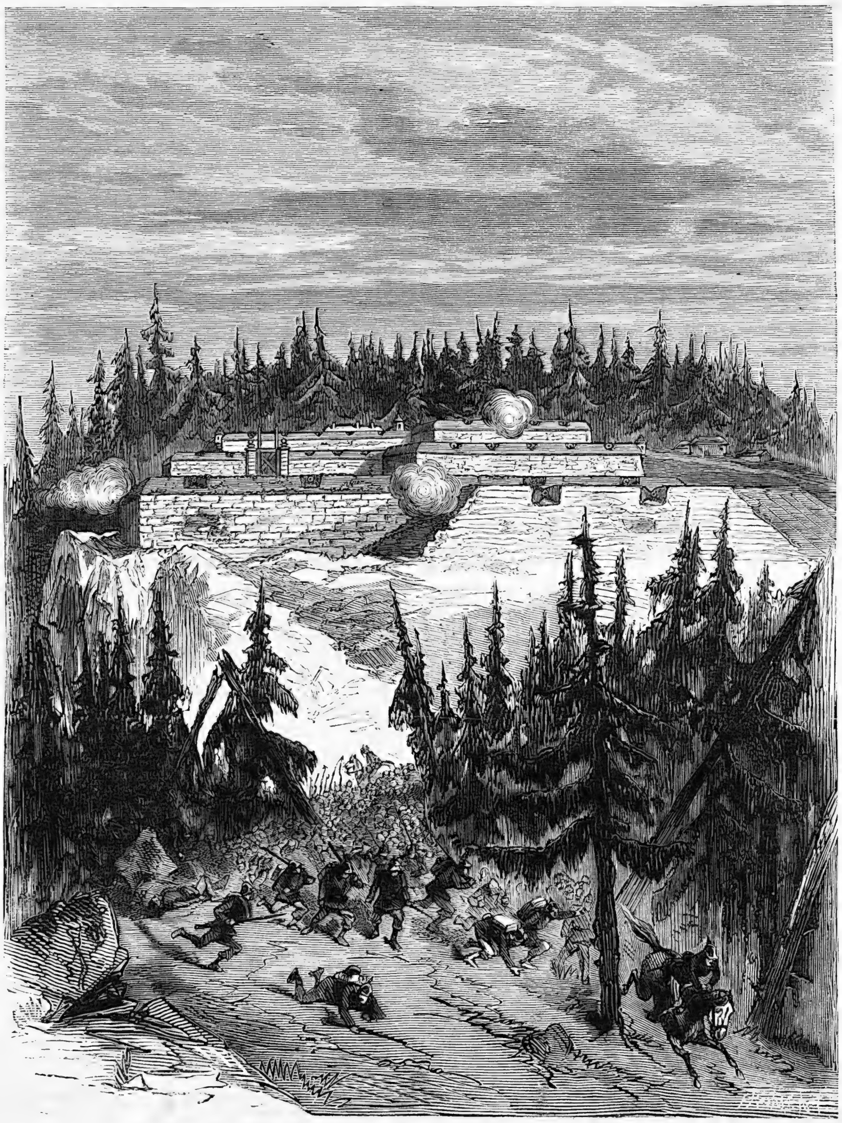
LIGHTHOUSES.—The accounts of the Mercantile Marine Fund show that in the year 1869 light dues amounting to £396,572 were received in the United Kingdom. The year's expenditure was £297,755 for maintenance of lighthouses, establishment, and charges of collection, and £66,976 for new works and building, making together £364,731.

PURE WATER.—ALFRED BIRD, Experimental Chemist, begs to announce that he has perfected his new CARBON FILTER, price 7s. 6d. each, which he guarantees shall deliver 60 gallons of the purest water daily.—To be seen in action at 69, Worcester Street, Birmingham. [930

PATENT TEETH UPON SOFT GUMS.—By this improved system, as supplied by Mr. Watson, of No. 16, Newhall Street, exquisitely enamelled Artificial Teeth are fitted without any painful operation whatever, and being self-adhesive the use of wires, springs, or any unsightly fastenings are rendered unnecessary. They are fitted upon a soft, imperishable gum-coloured base, which cannot possibly cut or irritate the mouth and fitting perfectly every unevenness, are worn upon tender gums, roots of teeth, or by nervous persons for any length of time, without pain, unpleasantness, or discomfort.

PRUSSIAN REPULSE AT PHALSBURG.

The one gleam of satisfaction for the French amid the disasters of the battle field, is that which is derived from the continued holding out of the principal fortresses. Under very severe trials of their heroism and endurance French soldiers and civilians have borne the brunt of terrible siege operations. Of an immense army that was sent out to invade Germany there are none left to uphold the right of Frenchmen to the soil of France; but she keeps her footing nevertheless in her own land by means of her fortresses. Our picture on this page represents the fortifications of Phalsburg, attacked by the Prussians, who find the work a great deal too warm. Their reception has been such that they are getting away as hastily as possible. They made no impression upon Phlasburg. This was one of the fortresses of Louis the Fourteenth. It was planned by the unrivalled military engineer Vauban, in the place of older and less effective works. Phalsburg holds a very important position under the crest of the Vosges, commanding the mountain defiles. The works are built upon the rock. The successful defence of these fortresses has been a source of great encouragement to Paris, threatened during all the later stages of this war with a terrible siege.



PRUSSIAN REPULSE AT PHALSBURG.

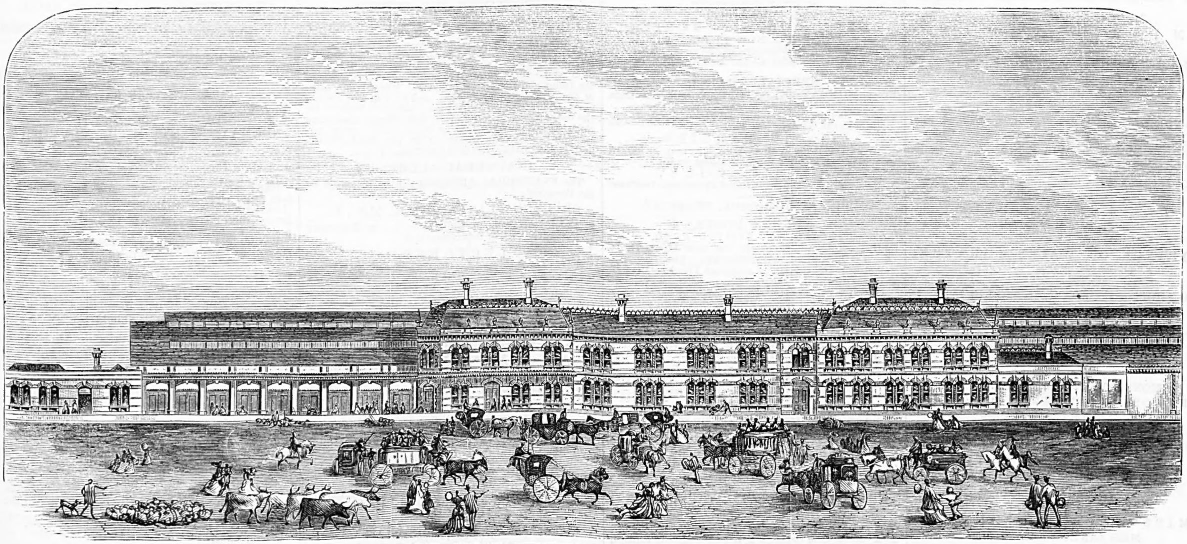
Professor Huxley on Smoking.—At the British Association Meeting at Liverpool, on Monday, in the course of some discussion on a paper by Mr. R. Wilson, L.C.P., on "The Statistics of Tobacco: Its Use and Abuse," Professor Huxley, the president of the Association, gave an amusing account of his experience of smoking. He said he was placed in a rather awkward position with regard to the question of smoking: for forty years of his life tobacco had been to him a deadly poison. He was brought up as a medical student, and he had every temptation to acquire the art of smoking, but his smoking, after a few puffs, always resulted in his finding himself on the floor. He failed to become a smoker when he was an officer in the navy, and he had for a long time a great antipathy to smokers, but some few years ago he was making a tour in Brittany, where he stayed at an old inn. It was awfully wet and cold without, and a friend of his took to smoking, and tempted him to have a cigar. His friend looked so happy, the fire was so warm within the inn, and it was so cold and wet without, that he thought he would try to smoke, and he found himself a changed man. He found that he was in the position of a lamentable pervert—and his case would illustrate to them the evil of bad associates—although the person who led him astray was a most distinguished man, and a late president of the British Association. From that day he dated his ruin. From that day, whenever smoking was going on they might be pretty sure that he joined in it. There was a certain substantial satisfaction about smoking, and he must say this for tobacco, that it was a sweetener and equaliser of the temper. The learned Professor, however, strongly deprecated excessive smoking.

PROFESSOR TYNDALL ON THE CLERGY.

Professor Tyndall gave an admirable lecture to the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Liverpool on Friday. We make a quotation, referring to the clergymen of England, especially those of London:—"From the examination of the solar system, Kant and Laplace came to the conclusion that its various bodies once formed parts of the same undislocated mass; that matter in a nebulous form preceded matter in a dense form; that as the ages rolled away heat was wasted, condensation followed, planets were detached, and that, finally, the chief portion of the fiery clould reached, by self-compression, the magnitude and density of our sun. The earth offers evidence of a fiery origin; and in our day the hypothesis of Kant and Laplace receives the independent countenance of spectrum analysis, which proves the same substances to be common to the earth and sun. Accepting some such view of the construction of our system as probable, a desire immediately arises to connect the present life of our planet with the past. On its first detachment from the central mass, life, as we understand it, could hardly be present on the earth. How, then, did it come there? The thing to be encouraged here is a reverent freedom—a freedom preceded by the hard discipline which checks licentiousness in speculation—while the thing to be repressed, both in science and out of it, is dogmatism. Two views offer themselves to us. Life was either present potentially in matter when in the nebulous form, and was unfolded from it by way of natural development, or it is a principle inserted into matter at a later date. With regard to the question of time, the views of men have changed remarkably in our day and generation; and I must say that as regards courage also, and a manful willingness to engage in open contest, with fair weapons, a great change has also occurred. The clergy of England—at all events the clergy of London—have nerve enough to listen to the strongest views which any one among us would care to utter, and they invite, if they do not challenge, men of the most decided opinions to state and stand by those opinions in open court. No theory upsets them. Let the most destructive hypothesis be stated only in the language current among gentlemen, and they look it in the face. They forego alike the thunders of heaven and the terrors of the other place, smiting the theory, if they do not like it, with honest secular strength. In fact, the greatest cowards of the present day are not to be found among the clergy, but within the pale of science itself. Two or three years ago, in an ancient London college—a clerical institution—I heard a very remarkable lecture by a very remarkable man. Three or four hundred clergymen were present at the lecture. The orator began with the civilization of Egypt in the time of Joseph, pointing out that the very perfect organization of the kingdom, and the possession of chariots, in one of which Joseph rode, indicated a long antecedent period of civilization. He then passed on to the mud of the Nile, its rate of augmentation, its present thickness, and the remains or human handiwork found therein; thence to the rocks which bound the Nile valley, and which teem with organic remains. Thus in his own clear and admirable way he caused the idea of the world's age to expand itself indefinitely before the mind of his audience, and he contrasted this with the age usually assigned to the world. During his discourse he seemed to be swimming against a stream; he manifestly thought that he was opposing a general conviction. He expected resistance; so did I. But it was all a mistake: there was no adverse current opposing conviction, no resistance, merely here and there a half humourous but unsuccessful attempt to entangle him in his talk. The meeting agreed with all that had been said regarding the antiquity of the earth and of its life. They had, indeed, known it all long ago, and they good-humouredly rallied the lecturer for coming among them with so stale a story. It was quite plain that this large body of clergymen, who were, I should say, the finest samples of their class, had entirely given up the ancient landmarks, and transported the conception of life's origin to an indefinitely distant past. In fact, clergymen, if I might be allowed a parenthesis to say so, have as strong a leaning towards scientific truth as other men, only the resistance to this bent—a resistance due to education—is generally stronger in their case than in others. They do not lack the positive element—namely, the love of truth—but the negative element, the fear of error, preponderates. Slowness of acceptation, or even hostility, may be thus accounted for.

A "Scene" at Madame Tussaud's.—An amusing incident of "absurd enthusiasm" recently occurred at Madame Tussaud and Sons' exhibition, involving some little danger to their valuable property. An elderly French matron, suddenly finding herself face to face with the effigy of Count Von Bismarck, commenced to abuse it, and at last, carried away by her feelings, she rushed towards it, and, had it not been for vigorous remonstrances, and a little gentle force used by the *employées* of the establishment, would certainly have destroyed the waxen features of the distinguished count. So completely overcome by her feelings was this would-be belligerent, that the notable remedies, sal volatile, etc., had to be resorted to, happily with soothing results.

Daniel Defoe.—On Friday morning, Mr. Charles Reed, M.P. for Hackney, unveiled a monument to the author of "Robinson Crusoe," erected by the voluntary subscriptions of the boys and girls of England, in Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, City-road, where Daniel Defoe was buried in 1731, the place at that time being called Tindall's burying ground. The monument, which is of very chaste design, is in the shape of an Egyptian column—a sort of Cleopatra's needle—and is the work of Mr. Horner, sculptor, of Bournemouth. It is composed entirely of fine marble, and is 17 feet in height, being at the base 8 feet by 4 feet, with a handsome bronze railing surrounding it. The pillar bears the following inscription:—"Daniel Defoe. Born 1661, died 1731. Author of 'Robinson Crusoe.'" Another inscription sets forth that the monument is the result of an appeal in a religious newspaper, and that it represents the united contributions of 1,700 persons.



NEW GREAT WESTERN STATION, BIRMINGHAM.

THE NEW GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY STATION AT BIRMINGHAM.

The Snow Hill Station of the Great Western Railway Company has long been not only an eyesore but a public inconvenience, and the public will be glad to learn that the Company are now engaged in replacing the ugly old building. The traffic from Snow Hill is very great, not only to the Black Country but to North Wales, and to London. Having regard to the reputation of the Company, it is surprising that they have delayed the reconstruction of the Snow Hill Station so long. The Great Western has been called "the gentleman's line," and it may certainly claim distinction for the courtesy of its servants, and generally for its excellent permanent way. The service from London to Birmingham is admirable, and the new Station will be welcomed by the public generally, and will, we are sure, be the means of increasing the traffic in this district.

We give an illustration above of the new Station, representing the Snow Hill front. In a future Number, when the building is more complete, we shall give a general view of the line and platforms.

The principal front of the building is towards Snow-hill. The structure consists of two storeys. The lower one, which is on a level with the platform, and somewhat raised above Snow-hill, consists of the booking-office, waiting and refreshment rooms, and other conveniences for the public. The upper portion of this building is allotted for offices for the Company's business. This, being the upside, will have a platform extending 720 feet, of which 506 feet will be covered by a roof, stretching over the four lines and two platforms. The roof, covering the main lines and platforms, will be of 92 feet span, constructed entirely of iron, with the necessary ventilators and glass for lights. On the down side the station will be of but one storey, the building consisting of booking office, refreshment rooms, first and second class waiting rooms, parcels office, and other public accommodation. There are side lines also provided for local traffic on the down side (which will meet the requirements of the Stourbridge and Dudley Branch Line trains), and a roof 165 feet in length and 58 feet in breadth will cover this portion, corresponding in style with the larger span.

Some difficulty was experienced in the laying out of the station on account of the space between Snow-hill and Livery-street being so limited. It it proposed to connect the up and down platforms by means of a bridge, which will be of an ornamental character, and in accordance with the general details of the station.

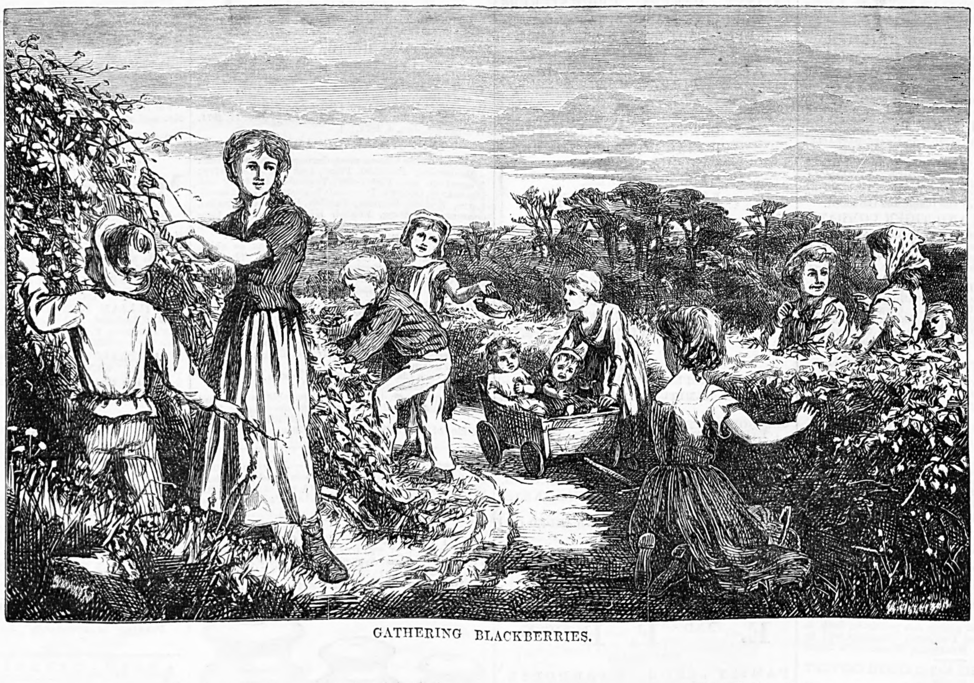
The style of architecture is semi-classical, with a little colour introduced into its general details.

A feature worthy of notice is that the old wall in front of the building will be removed, and a handsome iron railing substituted, displaying an ornamental front towards Snow-hill instead of the former brick and mortar structure.

The works have been designed and the general arrangements made by Mr. W. G. Owen, engineer-in-chief to the company, with the assistance of Mr. R. C. Prickett, assistant-engineer; and the building is being erected under the supervision of Mr. H. Voss, of Oxford, the divisional engineer. Messrs. Vernon and Capper, of Liverpool, are the contractors for the iron roofs, Messrs. Jeffrey and Pritchard for the building, and Mr. H. Lovatt, of Wolverhampton, for the platforms.

GATHERING BLACKBERRIES.

Our party of autumn wanderers have arrived at a fruitful spot. With what eager glee they swoop down upon the brambles, laden with blackberries! This is the children's own harvest in the country, the real wild vintage of Old England, the rustic half-holiday festival. Are there any young folk in the world so happy as the blackberry party in these brown, sunny autumn days?



GATHERING BLACKBERRIES.

Arriving at the first bushes, and picking the few stray berries that have turned black since the last foray, these young fruit gatherers, wise with the experience of the few brief seasons past which seem to them so long a period, know well that they shall come by-and-bye to such gardens of abundance as that which is depicted in the sketch upon this page, but they never hurry on. It is one of the unalterable conditions of this feast that the banquet shall commence where the blackberries begin. To appreciate the overwhelming supply which presents itself at an advanced stage of the search, it is necessary to clear off the scanty fare by the way. The wealth of the moment is so much the greater by contrast with the comparative poverty which led up to it. The hour of travail and anticipation and slow accumulation of fruit some stages short of perfection is past with the happy group drawn here by our artist. The small stock in the little baskets, with an alloy of reds, a proportion that takes the bloom off the bulk, is cast with scorn into the nearest ditch, and the order goes forth from the captain of the band—the tall maiden in the foreground, who is a child among children and a young woman among women, that from that moment none but the ripest and primest shall be added to the store. One might wish, for those happy children, that which their dearest friends dare not hope for them, nor for any such standing on the threshold of life, that it might be their fortune t gather the ripest and primest fruit thenceforward all their days.

An amusing scene, says the *Journal de Paris*, took place recently at a Toulouse Theatre. An honest countryman was present to see a play for the first time in his life. A melodrama full of terrible incidents was being performed. One scene represented a storm. The theatre was sombre, and the stage was fitted up as the hall of an old château. All at once flashes illuminated the scene. Our countryman devoutly makes the sign of the cross, according to the custom of his compatriots. Then thunder growls. Another sign of the cross. Finally, one of the personages in the drama precipitates himself on to the stage, shaking his cloak, and crying, "Mon Dieu, what terrible hail." At these words the peasant springs over the benches, and makes his escape from the theatre, groaning aloud, "Mon Dieu, what will become of our poor vines!" Arrived in the street, the countryman was surprised to find that the moon was shining brightly.

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MISS BATEMAN.

TO-NIGHT (Saturday), and MONDAY Sep. 24 and 26, Mosenthal's immensely popular Play,

LEAH.

On TUESDAY, September 27, will be produced, with New Scenery, Tom Taylor's new successful Play,

MARY WARNER,

Doors open at 6-30; Commence at 7 o'clock. Box Office from 11 till 3.

Lower Boxes, 3s.; Upper Boxes, 2s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. [44

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TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY), Sep. 24, Last Night of

"CLAM,"

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AND

MR. AUGUSTUS GLOVER.

MONDAY, Sep. 26, and every Evening,

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In the great Olympic Drama, Written by Charles Dickens, and dramatized by Andrew Halliday, entitled

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Of Birds, Beasts, and Reptiles is the *ne plus ultra* of all Travelling Zoological Exhibitions. Repudiating copyists, braggarts, and paltry plagiarists, Mr. Alex. Fairgrieve asserts that his Collection, the QUEEN'S MENAGERIE, WOMBWELL'S ROYAL No. 1, is the Largest, most Complete, and valuable travelling in the World!

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The astounding daring of this truly wonderful Artiste must be witnessed to be appreciated. LORENZO'S performances at once dispel the idea that it is necessary to have a BLACK SKIN in order to subdue the wild nature of the denizens of the jungle and the forest.

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In which LORENZO gives striking illustrations of the fearful reality and danger attendant upon the life of the Hunter and Trapper. Such is the absolute command LORENZO has attained over the Animals, that he causes them to

LEAP THROUGH GARLANDS OF FIRE,

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Are unique in their unparalleled performances. They have been trained to their present state of perfection by LORENZO, and are exhibited by that Artiste; as are, also,

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This magnificent group of Animals is the theme of admiration wherever the Menagerie is located. Their many and varied Performnnces will be witnessed with much pleasure and wonder.

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Are made subservient to the sovereign Will of Man! Abject as Lapdogs they obey the slightest nod of their Master. In his absence their ferocity is as apparent as the sun at noonday!

BRILLIANT SPECTACULAR DISPLAY.

In the Fifteen Huge Caravans of over Five Hundred Specimens of the choicest examples of the Works of Nature! Everything that is rare, everything that is curious, everything that money can purchase, both in the Animal, Reptile, and Feathered Creations will be found in the Queen's Menagerie, Wombwell's Royal No. 1.

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SPECIAL CAUTION!—As the WINDOW BILLS PLACARDS of this Menagerie have been copied and plagiarised by unscrupulous individuals, in order for the Public to detect the shameful fraud they are requested to note that every announcement connected with WOMBWELL'S ROYAL No. 1, bears the imprint of the *Daily Guardian*, Nottingham.

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THURSDAY, September 29th; and on

THURSDAY, October 13th.

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BIRMINGHAM & MIDLAND INSTITUTE.

PROGRAMME FOR SESSION

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Annual Subscribers of One Guinea are entitled to Admission the News Room, the Conversazione, the Monday Evening Lectures, the Inaugural Address, the Christmas Holiday Lectures, the History and Literature Classes of the Industrial Department, and the Monthly Meetings of the Archæological Section, and to join the Excursions of the Section. They may take out Tickets for the use of Resident Members of their Families, entitling them to all the privileges of Subscribers—except admission to the News Room—at 10s. per annum for the first Ticket, and 5s. for each additional Ticket.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered by the President,

DR. LYON PLAYFAIR, C.B., M.P., &c.,

in the Town Hall, at Eight o'clock, on Thursday Evening, the 29th of September inst.

LECTURES.

N.B.—The Lectures for this Session will be given in the Masonic Hall, New Street.

1870.	
October 3 „ 10	The Movements of Gases.—Professor Odling, M.B., F.R.S.
„ 17 „ 24	Extinct Animals intermediate between Reptiles and Birds.—Professor Huxley, L.L.D., F.R.S., &c.
„ 31 November 7	Erasmus Darwin and Anna Seward, their Works and their Friends.—George Dawson, Esq., M.A.
„ 14 „ 21	Modern History.—Professor Seeley, M.A.
„ 28	The Trustworthy Portraits of the Rival Queens, Elizabeth and Mary Queen of Scots.—Geo. Scharf, Esq., F.S.A.
December 5	—Arrangements not completed.
1871.	
January 16	Decorative Art.—E. J. Poynter, Esq., A.R.A.
„ 23	The Revival of Learning.—W. G. Clark, Esq., M.A., Vice-Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.
„ 30	The Funeral Rites of the Ancients.—C. T. Newton, Esq., M.A.
February 6	The Public Games of the Greeks.—C. T. Newton, Esq, M.A.
„ 13	Primitive Civilization.—E. B. Tylor, Esq., V.P., Ethnological Society.
„ 20	The Music and Musicians of the Future. —Thos. Anderton, Esq., Mus. Bac.
„ 27 March 6	The Spirit of English War Literature—past and present.—Prof. Hy. Morley.
„ 13 „ 20	The Astronomy of Comets.—Professor Robert Grant, LL.D., F.R.S.
„ 27	War Ships and their Guns.—E. J. Reed, Esq., C.B., late Chief Constructor of the Navy.
April 3 „ 10	Recent Researches in Physical Science.—W. F. Barrett, Esq., F.C.S.
„ 17 „ 24	Jean Jacques Rosseau.—George Dawson, Esq., M.A.

Each Lecture will begin at Eight o'clock.

NEWS ROOM.

The News Room is open to Subscribers every day from Nine a.m. till Ten p.m.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

Monthly Meetings of the Section for reading of Papers, Discussions, Exhibitions, &c., &c., will be held during the Session, at Eight o'clock on Thursday Evenings, in the Secretary's Office.

Excursions to places of Archæological interest will be arranged during the summer months.

CONVERSAZIONE.

A CONVERSAZIONE will be held in the Town Hall, on the Evening of Wednesday, 14th of December.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY LECTURES.

A Course of Five Lectures on "Light" will be delivered by Mr. C. J. Woodward, B.Sc., in the Lecture Theatre, at Half-past Three o'clock, on the Afternoons of the following Days:—

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1870.
Saturday, Dec. 31, 1870.
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1871.
Saturday, Jan. 7, 1871.
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1871.

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The following Classes meet during the present week: Mechanics; Practical, Plane, and Solid Geometry; Magnetism and Electricity, Vegetable Anatomy and Physiology, Geology, Practical Chemistry (three classes), Latin, French, German, English Literature, English Grammar, Writing, English History, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Mensuration, and Advanced Singing. (Fee, 2s. 6d. a Term.)

The Fee to each of these Classes, except as above stated, is 3s. 6d. a Term of fifteen lessons. There are Two Terms in the Session. Students under fourteen years of age not admitted to the above classes. The first lesson in each class is open to the public free of charge.

PENNY CLASSES.

CLASSES in Arithmetic, (Elementary and Advanced,) Chemistry, (Elementary and Adanced stages,) Animal Physiology, Physical Geography, and Elementary Singing also began this week.

Fee to each Class One Penny per Lesson.

All the Classes are open to Females.

Subscriptions and Class Fees (payable in advance) may be paid to, and Programmes obtained from

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Office of the Institute, Ratcliff Place.

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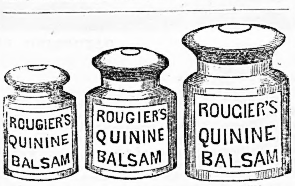
All Orders executed in the first style of workmanship.



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AND ON MONDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS

From 7 till 10 o'clock.

Admission, One Shilling.

Season Tickets, 5s. Catalogues, 6d.

Birmingham, September 5th, 1870. [28

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And other Places of Attraction on the South Devon and Cornwall Coasts.

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Full particulars of the Tourist arrangements may be obtained at any of the Company's offices and stations.

J. GRIERSON, *General Manager.*

Paddington, August, 1870.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS to PORTISHEAD, LYNMOUTH, and ILFRACOMBE (via Bristol and Portishead).

On every Saturday during September, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Paddington Station at 7-40 a.m., Hammersmith at 7-15 a.m., Kensington (Addison Road) at 7-10 a.m., and Reading at 8-45 a.m., at the undermentioned fares, viz.:—

	First Class.	*Cov. Class.*
Portishead	21s. 0d.	12s. 6d.
Ilfracombe .... Lynmouth	28s. 0d.	17s. 6d.

Passengers will proceed from Bristol by the Bristol and Portishead Railway at 12-55 p.m., and on by steamer in connection.

NOTICE OF RETURN.

The steamer will leave Ilfracombe at 8-30 a.m., and Lynmouth at 9 a.m., and the trains in connection will leave Portishead at 1-45, and Bristol (for Paddington) at 5 p.m. on the dates shown on bills.

EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST OF ENGLAND.

Every Saturday during September an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Paddington at 7-40 a.m., Hammersmith 7-15, Kensington (Addison Road) 7-10, and Reading at 8-45 a.m., for WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Clevedon, Cheddar, Bridgwater, Taunton, Ilminster, Chard, Bishops Lydiard, Williton, Watchet, Tiverton, Collumpton, Exeter, Starcross, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Newton, Torquay, Totness, Dartmouth, Moreton Hampstead, Plymouth, Tavistock, Launceston, Liskeard, Truro, Falmouth, Penzance, and other stations on the South Devon and Cornwall Railways; returning on Monday week or Monday fortnight following date of departure. Fares there and back—Exeter, 25s. first class, 15s. covered carriages; Torquay, 32s. first class, 19s. covered carriages; Plymouth, 35s. first class, 21s. covered carriages; Falmouth or Penzance, 4[illegible]s. first class, 24s. covered carriages.

EXCURSIONS TO THE SEASIDE.

Every Saturday during September an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Paddington at 1-5, Hammersmith 12-35, Kensington (Addison Road) 12-40, and Reading 2-10 p.m., for TROWBRIDGE, Westbury, Frome, Bruton, Castle Carey, Wells, Yeovil, Maiden Newton, Dorchester, and Weymouth; returning on Monday week or Monday fortnight following date of departure. Fares there and back—Yeovil, 18s. 6d. first class, 11s. covered carriages; Weymouth, 20s. first class, 12s. 6d. covered carriages.

For further particulars see handbills, which can be obtained at any of the Company's stations or offices.

J. GRIERSON, *General Manager.*

Paddington, August, 1870.

PATENT TEETH ON SOFT GUMS.

MR. WILLIAM J. WATSON,

SURGEON DENTIST,

(Many years Assistant to Mr. Eskeel, of Bennett's Hill.)

Supplies every description of Artificial Teeth and Gums so largely advertised, at about one-third of the usual charges, being the *actual maker.*—Single Teeth from 3s 6d., Sets from £2 10s., including all charges.—Only address, [40

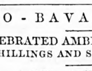
16, *NEWHALL STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*

ESTABLISHED 1814.

WILLIAM NUTTING, Maker of the Best, Lightest, and Strongest UMBRELLAS, on Fox's Paragon Frames, in Twill, Plain, and Shot Silks, with the new Silk Preserving Case.

Also CARRIAGE, GINGHAM, ALPACA, and ZANELLA UMBRELLAS.

See that my Name is inside, thus—



UMBRELLAS FOR PRESENTATION.

MAKER OF ALL KINDS OF STICKS.

Dealer in Materials for the Trade. Note the Address—

136, *DIGBETH, BIRMINGHAM.* [16

SUFFIELD'S DINING ROOMS,

AND

LUNCHEON BAR,

UNION PASSAGE, BIRMINGHAM. [754

ANGLO-BAVARIAN ALES.

THE CELEBRATED AMBER ALE, IN BOTTLES TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE PER DOZ.

ASH AND CO.,

HIGH STREET, BIRMINGHAM. [738

QUINN AND SON,

ADVERTISING CONTRACTORS,

15, TYTHING STREET, WORCESTER.

All the protected private Stations, Walls, Boards, and Hoardings. Charges strictly moderate. Established 1825. [601

LIVERY BUTTONS.—Order your Livery, Crest, Monograms, Police, Naval, Military, and Railway Buttons from PIGOTT and CO., with their *Fast* Shanks.

Improved TROUSER BUTTONS, made with any Name and Address. St. Paul's Square, Birmingham. Patterns by Post. [779

THE ST. JAMES' LUNCHEON STORES, 105, NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM, five Doors from the New Midland Bank. Chops, Steaks, &c. at five minutes' notice. Choice Foreign Wines and Cigars, Burton Ales and Dublin Stout. T. HANSON; and at the CORNER STORES, UNION PASSAGE. [437

PURNELL & SONS.
WORCESTER

PURNELL AND SONS,

ST. NICHOLAS STREET,
WORCESTER,

FURNITURE CARRIERS,
BY ROAD OR RAIL.

EXTENSIVE ROOM FOR WAREHOUSING FURNITURE VALUABLES, &c. [791

MONEY LENT for Three Years, repayable quarterly, on approved Personal Security. THE FULL SUM ADVANCED.—Apply (if by letter with four stamps) to JAMES BATE, MINORIES, BIRMINGHAM. [827

M. J. ROTHSCHILD,
Midland
WATCH MANUFACTORY,
Wholesale and for Exportation,
15, CAROLINE STREET,
BIRMINGHAM. [455

GOLD SPECTACLES.—The largest and best assortment of handsome GOLD SPECTACLES and EYE GLASSES set with best Pebbles, at 41, Bull-street.

JAMES GARGORY, Optician.

ELEGANT PRESENTS.—The largest and best assortment of Foreign NOVELTIES to be found in the Midland Counties.

JAMES GARGORY, 41, Bull-st., Birmingham. [679

RICHARD NEWHALL AND SONS, Beg to call the attention of Merchants and others to their

PATENT SELF-ACTING NEEDLE CASES,
Cigar Cases, Photographic Receptacle Ladies' Companions. Business Card Cases.
N.B.—Cases, &c.. made to any design or Pattern.
ASTWOOD BANK, NEAR REDDITCH. [919

GO TO THE TRAFALGAR HOTEL, *MOSELEY.* Beautiful GARDENS, BOWERS, and excellent BOWLING GREEN. The most Spacious, Magnificent, and Comfortable BILLIARD ROOM in the County of Worcester.

[961 GEORGE GORTON, *Proprietor.*

HOLIDAY
CROQUET!
THE ECLIPSE
CROQUET!
THE EDUCATIONAL TRADING CO.,
LIMITED.
CHAIRMAN—JOSIAH MASON, Esq.
29 *and* 30, *UNION STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*
JOHN KEMPSTER, *Manager.*
London: ST. BRIDE'S AVENUE, FLEET ST.
Bristol: 34, *BRIDGE STREET.* [926

JOHN MADDOX,
MONUMENTAL BRASS ENGRAVER,
62, *BATH STREET, BIRMINGHAM.* [893

MONEY.—£100 to £3,000, various SUMS, to be immediately ADVANCED, on approved Freehold or Leasehold Securities.—Apply to Mr. John Barnsley. Offices next the Queen's College, 36, Paradise Street, Birmingham. [866

Every Saturday, Price 3d.
THE LADY'S OWN PAPER,
AN
ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL.

Containing News of the Week, Tales and Sketches, London and Paris Fashions, Music and the Drama, Patterns, and the Requirements of the House.

Of all Booksellers, and at all Railway Stations; or, direct from the Publishers,

E. MARLBOROUGH & CO.,
AVE MARIA LANE,
LONDON. [464

PIANO-FORTES AND HARMONIUMS.

THE BEST OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
For Sale, or Hire, and on the three years' system,
AT MR. HARRISON'S GREAT MIDLAND PIANO-FORTE WAREROOMS.
COLMORE ROW, BIRMINGHAM.

NEW MUSIC, HALF PRICE. [549

BOWATER'S PRIZE ARTIFICIAL TEETH defy all Competition for NATURAL APPEARANCE, MASTICATION, ARTICULATION, and COMFORT. Teeth fixed from 5s. per Tooth, including all charges.

W. BOWATER, Surgeon Dentist, &c., 142, Broad Street, Birmingham.

BOWATER'S TOOTH-ACHE SPECIFIC, in Bottles, 6d. and 1s. each; by Post, 7 or 14 stamps. [573

CLARETS AND OTHER LIGHT WINES.
JOSEPH BARROWS AND SON,
AGENTS TO HANAPPIER & CO.,
BORDEAUX.
STORES: 51, Snow Hill; 41, High Street; 38, Aston Street.
OFFICES: 58, Bath Street, Snow Hill, Birmingham. [812

CARPENTERS' TOOLS, in greatest variety, and of best quality, may be had at lower prices than from any other House in the Midland Counties, from

ROUTLEDGE (LATE THOMAS), [626
23, BULL STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

NOTICE.

IN consequence of a contemplated Dissolution Of Partnership,

SWINDEN AND SONS

Beg to invite the Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties, also their Friends and the Trade to INSPECT their STOCK, which they are now offering at a liberal Discount for Cash.

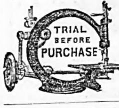
The STOCK comprises one of the largest varieties of WORKS of ART in CLOCKS, &c., imported into the Midland Counties.

GILT DRAWING ROOM CLOCKS,
MARBLE AND BRONZE DINING ROOM CLOCKS,
From 37s. 6d. to £35.
WOOD CASE FIFTEEN-DAY CHAMBER CLOCKS,
From 15s. to £6.
EIGHT-DAY
SPRING TIMEPIECES FOR OFFICES.
CHIME CLOCKS SUITED FOR HALLS.
CARVED LIBRARY CLOCKS,
VIENNA REGULATORS FOR HALLS,
£2 10s. to £10.
GILT CARRIAGE CLOCKS, £3 10s. to £15.
MUSIC BOXES, 9s. 6d. to £20.
GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.
HIGH CLASS GENEVA WATCHES.
COLOURED GOLD JEWELLERY.
FIFTEEN CARAT GOLD CHAINS, &c.
27, *TEMPLE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.* [899

WRECK OF THE "SPINDRIFT." 100 Pieces of 32in. Gray CALICO, heavy 2½d., 3½d., 4½d., and 5d. per yard. 500 Pieces of 30in. Heavy Gray DRILL, 15lb. weight, 4½d. and 5d. per yard. 1,000 RUGS, CARRIAGE RUGS, HORSE RUGS, and RAILWAY RUGS, 1s. 9d. to 10s. 6d. each. 36in. Fine White CALICO, at 3d., 4½d., and 5d. per yard. Common White CALICO, 56in. wide, 3½d. per yard. White Imitation IRISH LINEN, 33in., 3½d. per yard. 22in. COTTON CHECKS, 4d. per yard. Striped GINGHAM, 25in., 3½ per yard. Black and Scarlet BROAD CLOTH, 3s. per yard, all wool. 24in. Striped GINGHAM, 2½d. per yard. 250 Large Printed SHAWLS, Cashmere, 1⅜d. yard, 1s. 3d. each. Best All-wove Fancy SHIRTINGS, full width, 10d. to 1s. 1d. per yard. Large size HEARTH RUGS, very durable. 3s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. each. 50 Sets of fine Cut DECANTERS, 11s. 6d. set. Cut CLARET BOTTLES, 5s. each. BLANKETS, White, Red, Green, Blue, Brown, and Gray, from 6s. 6d. pair. Lot of Single BLANKETS, all Colours, at 1s. 3d. per lb. 8in. SCISSORS, 2d. pair. CUPS and SAUCERS, 1s. 3d. dozen. Brown BLANKETS, 3s. 3d. pair. 15,000 Yards of Scotch and Yorkshire All-wool TROUSERING, 2s. yard, to pick.

AT G. ORAM'S, 124, BROAD STREET, [576

WILLCOX AND GIBBS' SILENT SEWING MACHINE.



MACHINES TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.
Machines on Hire.
T. S. TONGUE,
Sole Agent,
3, *BULL STREET,*
BIRMINGHAM. [426

DRY EARTH CLOSETS AND INODOROUS HOUSE COMMODES.

PARKER'S PATENT.—This new system of applying Dry Earth is the best known. It does not get out of order, is self-acting, and low in price. Patentee and Manufacturer, John Parker, Woodstock, Oxford.

Agents in Birmingham, Messrs. PARKER and SON, Builders, Wheeler Street, Lozells. [955

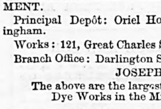
THE GREAT CENTRAL STEAM POWER DYEING AND CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT.

Principal Depôt: Oriel House, Bull Street, Birmingham.
Works: 121, Great Charles Street.
Branch Office: Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.
JOSEPH HARRIS, Proprietor.
The above are the largest and most complete Dye Works in the Midland Counties. [445

THE
GREAT WESTERN HOTEL,
(Snow Hill Station.)
BIRMINGHAM.

"One of the most elegant, comfortable, and economical Hotels in the three kingdoms."—*The Field*, July 31 [691

WATERPROOF CLOAKS,
WATERPROOF COSTUMES,
AT
SHELLARD AND HODGSON'S,
82, *HIGH STREET,*
BIRMINGHAM. [735



LLOYD & CO.,
157, *ISLINGTON,*
BIRMINGHAM.

Patentees and Manufacturers of Perambulators, and Bath Chairs of every description.

Wholesale and Retail. [603

JOHNSON AND CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF
ELECTRO SILVER-PLATED GOODS,
TO SUIT ALL PURCHASERS.
Manufactory and Show Rooms:—
CROWN WORKS, 81, LICHFIELD STREET,
BIRMINGHAM. [592

THE WORCESTER ROYAL PORCELAIN COMPANY, LIMITED,
58, *NEW STREET.*
A LARGE AND SELECT STOCK OF
USEFUL AND ORNAMENTAL ARTICLES
ALWAYS ON SALE.
THE PATTERNS COMPRISE ALL THE
NEWEST & MOST ARTISTIC DESIGNS,
THE PRICES BEING THE SAME AS AT
THE WORCESTER SHOW ROOMS.
MESSRS. DAVIS, AGENTS. [983

CANNOCK CHASE COAL,
CANAL AND RAILWAY.

THE COMPANY send COAL by Railway in Trucks to all Stations, and load Canal Boats at their extensive Wharves on the Anglesey Branch of the Birmingham Canal, adjoining the Colliery, and also at Hednesford Basin, Cannock.

PRICES LOADED INTO BOATS.

DEEP COAL	11s. 0d.	per ton.
YARD or HOUSEHOLD COAL	10s. 6d.	„
SHALLOW (one way)	8s. 6d.	„
HARD COAL	7s. 6d.	„
ROUGH SLACK	4s. 6d.	„
FINE SLACK	3s. 0d.	„

CANNEL GAS COAL, 11,000 FEET OF GAS PER TON.
Illuminating power of Gas in standard Candles, 32½ Candles.

For prices by Railway, including rate, apply to
JOHN N. BROWN,
56, *Union Passage, Birmingham.*
London Offices: 455, *New Oxford Street.*
June 1st, 1870. [793

JOSEPH GILLOTT'S
STEEL PENS.
Sold by all Dealers throughout the World.
[511

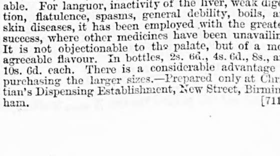
JOSEPH JOHNSON,
GENERAL BRICK AND TILE MERCHANT,
And Dealer in FIRST CLASS COALS
For Domestic and Manufacturing Purposes.
BRITANNIA WHARF, NEWTOWN ROW,
BIRMINGHAM. [931

YEATMAN'S YEAST POWDER has by its excellence, entirely superseded Baking Powder. The sale is immense and still increasing. It will keep good for years in any climate. Makes Pastry light and digestive, saving eggs and butter, and delicious Home-made Bread in five minutes. Used in her Majesty's Kitchen, and recommended by the *Lancet*. Sold everywhere in 1d. and 3d. Boxes and 6d. and 1s. Cannisters.—119, New Bond Street, London. [43

THE BIRMINGHAM MOURNING AND FUNERAL WAREHOUSE.
42, *NEW STREET.*
EVERY description of MOURNING ATTIRE.
BLACK SILKS, IN THE GREATEST VARIETY.
SHOW ROOMS FOR MOURNING MILLINERY.
MANTLES AND DRESSMAKING.
Funerals efficiently and economically CONDUCTED in every part of the country.
BACH AND BARKER,
PROPRIETORS.
[675

PATENT METALLIC AIR-TIGHT COFFINS, combining all the advantages of Wood, Shell, Lead, and Oak Coffins, can be obtained *at once* on application to the Head Office of the

PATENT METALLIC AIR-TIGHT COFFIN COMPANY,
158, *GREAT CHARLES STREET*
BIRMINGHAM.
Prices, &c., sent post free. [503



[410

In the spring months Christian's preparation of Sarsa Taraxacum (Dandelion combined with Sarsaparilla) is recommended with confidence as one of the most efficient Restoratives hitherto produced. As an alterative, tonic, and purifier of the blood, it is invaluable. For languor, inactivity of the liver, weak digestion, flatulence, spasms, general debility, boils, and skin diseases, it has been employed with the greatest success, where other medicines have been unavailing. It is not objectionable to the palate, but of a most agreeable flavour. In bottles, 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 8s., and 10s. 6d. each. There is a considerable advantage in purchasing the larger sizes.—Prepared only at Christian's Dispensing Establishment, New Street, Birmingham. [711

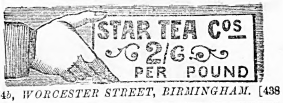
SPECIALITIES AT
B. NATHAN'S,
GOLDSMITH & WATCH MANUFACTURER,
71, *BULL STREET.*

Berlin Iron Jewellery, Bohemian Garnet ditto; Genoese Silver Filagree ditto; Danish Jewelled Ivory ditto; Indian China; Old Coins; Second-hand Plate; Diamonds, Jewels, and Plate,

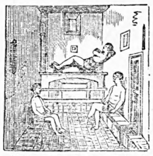
EXCHANGED OR BOUGHT FOR CASH.
B. NATHAN, 71, BULL STREET. [713

BUYERS OF WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY can have a Liberal Discount for Cash at SWINDEN and SONS, 27, Temple Street, Birmingham. [956

W. AND H. DEW,
SUCCESSORS TO RICHARD LLOYD,
GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSEMEN
AND UNDERTAKERS,
33, *NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*
[655



74*b*, *WORCESTER STREET, BIRMINGHAM.* [438



TURKISH, VAPOUR, SULPHUR, AND MEDICATED BATHS,
No. 14, CRESCENT, CAMBRIDGE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Open daily for Ladies and Gentlemen (Sundays excepted) from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m.

LIST OF TERMS ON APPLICATION.

N.B.—The only Establishment in the Midland Counties where you can have such a variety of Baths for the purposes of luxury and health.

JAMES MELLING, *Proprietor.*
MISS MELLING, *Superintendent of the Ladies' Department.*
909]

CONEY AND CO.,
CORKSCREW AND FANCY STEEL TOY MAKERS,
Invite the attention of Merchants and Factors to their WHISTLE RAILWAY KEYS and Corkscrews, just Registered by them, in Steel, German Silver, &c.; Light, Compact, Efficient, Cheap.
80 *(Top)*, *LIONEL STREET.* [748

W. AND F. WEBB,
BEDSTEAD, BEDDING, AND BED-ROOM FURNITURE
MANUFACTURERS & WAREHOUSEMEN,
7 *and* 8, *CORN MARKET, WORCESTER.*

N.B.—The new and spacious Show-rooms are now open. Inspection is invited. [782

CROQUET.

MANUFACTURED by JOHN HEAPE, 36, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham, Wholesale and Retail, from 12s. 6d. to 60s. The CAVENDISH, in Sets or separately, of Improved Make and Quality. Croquet Stands, Seats, Bowling Green Bowls, &c.

N.B.—The largest and most varied Stock in the Midland Counties for selection. [789

CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL APPARATUS.
AN INSPECTION OF OUR STOCK IS REQUESTED.
CATALOGUES AND PRICE LISTS FREE.
PHILIP HARRIS AND CO.,
9, BULL RING. [724

HUNT'S ECONOMICAL MOURNING AND FUNERAL WAREHOUSE,
94, *BULL STREET, BIRMINGHAM.*
BLACK SILKS, Deep and Half Mourning Dresses of Every Description.
SHAWLS, MANTLES, BONNETS, CAPS, and all kinds of Mourning Fancy Goods.
FUNERALS conducted with economy in any part of the country. [456

CHRISTIAN'S PATE DE LICHEN, in the form of Lozenges, removes phlegm, and gives relief in most disorders of the voice, throat, and chest. In colds, accompanied by cough, hoarseness, and the peculiar tickling and dryness in the throat usually called huskiness, its beneficial effects are felt almost immediately. If taken on leaving heated rooms, it will often be found a preventive of the above complaints. Being free from any preparation of opium, it may be given to children as well as adults. Boxes, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Manufactured only at CHRISTIAN'S, New Street, Birmingham. [408

WAR.—ORDER OF THE DAY.
DRESS!
RIGHT ABOUT FACE! QUICK MARCH!
TO THE
GLOBE HAT WAREHOUSE for a Brilliant Smart HAT, the crowning point of a Gentleman's *personel.*
BEST VALUE EVER OFFERED.
9s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 11s. 6d., 12s. 6d.
NEW STREET, CORNER OF TEMPLE STREET.
[946

OFFICES FOR BRITISH AND FOREIGN PATENTS and for the REGISTRATION of DESIGNS,
1, *BENNETT'S HILL and* 56, *ANN STREET,*
BIRMINGHAM.

Full instructions may be obtained upon application to Payne and Talbot. [651

ROYAL LEAMINGTON HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN.—SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS. This Institution was established 1860 for the treatment of Skin Diseases, and those resulting from Cancer, Scrofula, Lupus, Varicose Veins, &c.

The North Wing is now open for the reception of *In-Patients from all parts of the Kingdom.*

FUNDS URGENTLY NEEDED. Special accommodation for Self-supporting Patients.

895] E. D. W. PAGE, *Secretary.*

TIDMAN'S SEA SALT.

SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS,

In Bags and Boxes, containing 7 lb., 14 lb., and 28 lb.; also in Bags, containing 56 lb., and 1 cwt.

"TIDMAN'S SEA SALT.—Visitors to the seaside cannot fail to have noticed that the inhabitants who keep horses within the vicinity make a daily practice of walking the animals knee deep in the water, in order to strengthen the tendons of their fore and hind legs. If applied regularly, there is no better preventive or remedy for strains, and as Dr. Hassall, W. G. Scott, Esq., with other experienced analysts, have certified that 'Tidman's Sea Salt' is actually extracted from the sea, we have much pleasure in recommending its use as a preventive of sprains and 'grogginess' in the legs of horses used for every purpose."—*Sporting Life*, September 21st, 1864.

PROPRIETORS—TIDMAN AND SON, CHEMISTS,
10, *WORMWOOD STREET, LONDON, E.C.* [887

CAUTION.—See that every package bears our Trade Mark, without which none is genuine.

YOUNG'S GUINEA DRESSING GOWNS

FOR LADIES.

are now known throughout the world, and hundreds of letters testify the satisfaction given. They are made of Twilled, Saxony, and Printed Flannels, in every colour, all of which are guaranteed fast. The substance of the flannel is varied according to the season or climate for which it is required. Patterns and illustrations post free. Great care must be observed in copying the name and address, as our great success has brought forth a host of imitators.—Mrs. T. G. Young, 128, Oxford-street, W., near Regent-circus. [41

COUNTRY LADIES AND LONDON FASHIONS.—The many advertisements of the day, addressed frequently to the inexperienced, whilst they appear to offer facilities, only perplex ladies residing at a distance from the metropolis; nay, all Londoners themselves.

To assist suburban and remote customers, Messrs. JAY transmit patterns by post, or otherwise, and ladies may rest assured that the specimens and the goods will literally agree; and that in dealing with the old-established firm of Messrs. JAY they will buy at as cheap a cost as in any shop in London.

MESSRS. JAY have experienced Dressmakers and Milliners who act as Travellers, so that, in the event of immediate mourning being required, or any other sudden emergency for dress, one can be despatched to any part of the kingdom on receipt of letter or telegram, without any expense to the purchaser. All articles are marked in plain figures, and charges are the same as if the goods were bought for ready money at the warehouse in Regent Street.

Messrs. JAY having adopted a fixed tariff, publish the following epitome of their charges for

DRESSMAKING.	s.	d.
Making Dress, with plain Skirt	10	6
Making Dress with Tucks of Crape or Fancy Trimmings, from	14	6
Making Bodice and Mounting Skirt into band	7	6
Making Widow's Bodice, ditto, ditto	8	0
Mounting Skirt into Band, with Alpaca Pocket	1	6
Mounting ditto ditto, with Black Silk Pocket	2	6
Mounting ditto ditto, without Pocket	1	0
Silk Body Lining	5	6
Silk Sleeve Lining	3	6
Silk Low Body and Sleeve Lining	5	6
Lawn Body Lining	1	6
Sleeve Lining	1	0
Silk Facing	1	10½
Petersham Ribbon for Banding	0	8
Petersham Waistband, Covered Crape and Rosette	2	6
Making Garibaldi	6	0
Making Low Bodice	6	0
Sundries	1	6

Tucker, Braid, and Trimmings Extra.

THE
LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,
247, 249, *and* 251, *REGENT STREET.*
JAYS'. [877

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA,

The only guaranteed Pure Soluble Cocoa.
Better and Cheaper than any other Cocoa, Cocoa Extract, or any Chocolate.

The "British Medical Journal," March 27, 1869, says:—"Van Houten's Extract is admirable. In flavour it is perfect; and it is so pure, well prepared, and rich in alkaloid," &c., &c.

Sold in round Tins of 1 lb., ½ lb., and ¼ lb., at 3s. 6d., 2s., and 1s.

Sample Tins, sufficient for a family, *free of charge*, through your Grocer or Chemist.

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GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.

EPPS'S COCOA.
BREAKFAST.

"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette.*

Made simply with boiling water or milk.

Sold only in ¼ lb., ½ lb., and 1 lb. tin-lined packets, labelled— [959
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REEVES'S WARWICKSHIRE SAUCE.

This most Pure and Wholesome Condiment is universally acknowledged to be the Best and Cheapest ever offered to the Public, and is Sold Everywhere.

Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,
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[602

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PYRETIC SALINE

Is noted for making most invigorating, vitalizing, and refreshing draught, that gives instant relief in Headache, Sea or Bilious Sickness; it quickly cures the worst form of Eruptive or Skin Complaints, and the various diseases arising from Constipation, the Liver, or Blood Impurities, Innoculation, the results of breathing air infected with Fevers, Measles, or Small Pox, *are Cured and Prevented by its Use.* Sold by all Chemists and the Maker. In Patent Glass Stoppered Bottles, at 2s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 11s. & 21s. each. NOTICE MY TRADE MARK, AND BEWARE OF SPURIOUS IMITATIONS.

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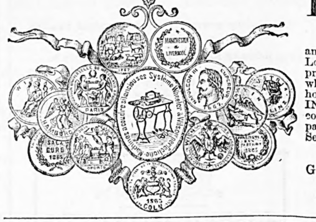

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GREATLY IMPROVED SHUTTLE MACHINES FOR WORKSHOPS.

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It contains all the best-paying and safest Stock and Share Investments of the day.

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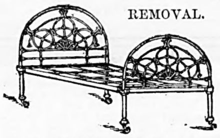

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Inspection Invited. Special Quotations. [943

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Virginian Trade Mark, J. Y. & S. & $\overset{\text{Y.}}{\text{V.S.}}$ on a shield.

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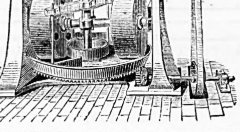
May be had through all respectable Wholesale Houses. [686



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FOR PARTICULARS APPLY TO
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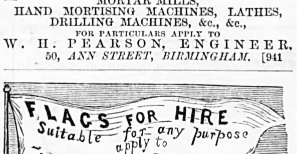

[9

TO CLEAN AND PRESERVE THE TEETH, USE HAMPSON'S

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A NEW AND SUPERIOR FLUID FOR TAKING OUT GREASE, PAINT, &c., FROM DRESS, DRAPERY, GLOVES, &c.

Sold in Bottles at 6d., 1s., and 2s. 6d. each by the principal Chemists, &c.

SAPINE IS CERTIFIED FREE FROM ALL PETROLEUMS. [20

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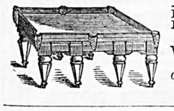

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GLAZED STONEWARE DRAIN PIPES, W.C. PANS,
WATER FILTERS, PLUMBAGO CRUCIBLES,
TERRA COTTA CHIMNEY TOPS, VASES, PENDANTS,
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At Greatly Reduced Prices, Manufactured by
DOULTON AND CO,
LAMBETH, LONDON.
May be had Wholesale and Retail at their Depot,
GRANVILLE WHARF, WOOD STREET, BIRMINGHAM.
Paris Exhibition 1867, a Silver Medal was awarded to H. D. & Co. for Terra Cotta. [784

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.—The best remedy for acidity of the stomach, heart-burn, headache, gout, and indigestion, and the best mild aperient for delicate constitutions, especially adapted for ladies, children, and infants.

DINNEFORD and CO., 172, New Bond-street, London, and of all chemists. [581

THE EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY, 9, Great St. Helen's, Bishopgate-street, London, appoint Agents in every Town for the sale of their Teas. A good living may be made by this Agency. Apply for Prospectus as above. [853

INVESTORS in search of good, sound DIVIDEND SECURITIES, paying from 5 to 25 per cent. per annum, should at once apply to the undersigned for *Britain's Metal Mines: A Complete Guide*, 1s.; or per post for 13 stamps, being clear, concise, and reliable.—JOHN R. PIKE, 3, Crown Chambers, Threadneedle Street, London. [4

WALKER'S CRYSTAL CASE WATCHES are superseding all others.—PRIZE MEDALS. London, 1862; Paris, 1867. Gold from £15 15s.; Silver from £6 6s.—68, Cornhill; 230, Regent-street; and 76, Strand. [842

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ORIENTAL TOOTH PASTE, established by forty years' experience as the most effectual preservative of the Teeth and Gums. Sold universally, in pots at 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. each. None genuine unless signed Jewsbury & Brown, Manchester. [889

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LOMBARD STREET, LONDON.

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From a quinquennial valuation of the entire Life Liabilities made as at 31st December, 1869, by independent Actuaries at 3 per cent. nett premiums, the Life Assets showed a

Surplus over Liabilities of £249,956,

Enabling the Directors to declare a

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On each sum assured for the five years, and to still hold in reserve all profits accrued on Annuities and Endowments.

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After payment of Dividend and Bonuses, the FUNDS of the Company stand as follows:—

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Capital paid up	£289,095	0	0
Reserve Fund, and Profit and Loss Account	286.925	10	0
Life Assurance Funds	1,173,401	9	1

JOHN H. McLAREN, *Manager.*
JOHN B. JOHNSTON, *Secretary in London.*

MIDLAND DISTRICT BRANCH:
34, *BENNETT'S HILL, BIRMINGHAM.*
LOCAL MANAGER—B. J. WHITEHEAD, [997

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LOMBARD STREET, and CHARING CROSS,
LONDON. ESTABLISHED 1782.
Prompt and liberal Loss Settlements.
Insurances effected in all parts of the world.
610] GEO. W. LOVELL, *Secretary.*

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PATENT CORN FLOUR.

IS GENUINE.

PREPARED SOLELY FROM MAIZE—INDIAN CORN.

Beware of

CHEAP QUALITIES BEARING A FALSE NAME,

Depending upon the recommendation of

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TOOTHACHE, HEADACHE, NEURALGIA.—HODGES "SOZODONTA" is the only certain Cure for Toothache without touching the Tooth. Headache and Neuralgia relieved immediately. Enclose 15 stamps. London Depôt, 4, Featherstone Buildings, Holborn.

AGENTS WANTED. [923

INDIGESTION.—The Medical Profession adopt MORSON'S Preparation of PEPSINE as the true remedy.—Sold in bottles and boxes from 2s., by all Pharmaceutical Chemists and the Manufacturers, Thomas Morson and Son, 124, Southampton Row, Russell Square, London. [845

GLENFIELD STARCH is the only kind used in Her Majesty's Laundry.

Those ladies who have not yet used the Glenfield Starch are respectfully solicited to give it a trial, and carefully follow out the directions printed on every package, and they will say, like the Queen's laundress, it is the finest Starch they ever used. [846

Printed by the Proprietors, HATTON and Co., at their Printing Works, Market Hall Passage, and published at 108, New Street, Birmingham.—*September* 24, 1870.